

The Church at Ephesus

Pastor Josh Whitney
(josh@trc.life)

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Ephesians is a letter written to the church at _____.

2. Paul did more for the _____ of Christianity than any person in human history.

3. Ephesians is one of the “_____ epistles” along with Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

4. The Apostle Paul wrote the letter of Ephesians, which means it is the _____.

5. Every Christian is a _____. Every _____ is a Christian.

6. Paul wrote this letter in 62 AD to _____ the church in Ephesus to remember their spiritual blessings and live lives worthy of them.

7. Is our faith out of duty or _____ for the Lord?

Additional Resources:

- Galatians 1:1-5, Sep. 28, 2024, “The Rescue Mission” (A brief biography on Paul from 4:20-10:10)
- Revelation 2:1-7, Oct. 18, 2020, “Loveless” (The letter to the church at Ephesus)

Discussion Questions:

1. Ephesus was a wealthy, religious, and culturally significant city. In what ways do we see spiritual parallels between ancient Ephesus and our current culture?
2. The early church in Ephesus was planted and nurtured by strong leaders like Paul, Timothy, and John. Who has had a significant spiritual impact on your life? How can we be that person for someone else?
3. Paul identifies Believers as “saints” in Christ. How does this biblical definition challenge (or affirm) your understanding of what it means to be a saint? Do you see yourself as “set apart” for God’s purposes? Why or why not?
4. Paul spent three years in Ephesus teaching “the whole counsel of God.” What does this phrase mean to you? Why is it vital for Christians to be grounded in the full message of Scripture?
5. The Gospel disrupted the culture and economy of Ephesus. What would it look like if the Gospel had that same kind of impact in our community today? Are there areas in your life (or community) that need to be disrupted by the truth of Christ?
6. In Revelation 2, Jesus praises the Ephesian church for their perseverance but warns them about losing their first love. What does it mean to “abandon your first love”? How can we guard against spiritual drift?
7. Ephesians is often called “the Believer’s Bank” because it outlines our spiritual blessings in Christ. What spiritual blessings are you most thankful for right now?

Next Week’s Message: Ephesians 1:3-10