

*Walking Out the Word:*  
**The Epistle to the Ephesians**

**Important Background to Ephesians:**

- Ephesus was a principal port city in Asia Minor and one of the seven churches in Rev. 2-3.
- Paul spent two years in Ephesus around 55AD (Acts 18-19) developing a deep relationship.
- While imprisoned in Rome (60 AD), Paul wrote this general letter.
- Awaiting trial, Paul wrote this letter which would be circulated to many congregations.
- The letter of Ephesians reveals the beauty of the church as Christ's body.
- Ephesians 1-3 encapsulates *the believer's position IN Christ*.
- Ephesians 4-6 instructs on *the believers walk in the world*.

**Things to talk about in Walking Out the Word:**

- *Opening:* Open with prayer, using Paul's apostolic prayer in Ephesians 1:15-23 as a guide.
- *Ephesians 1:* What are the "spiritual blessings"(1:3) that we have in our position of being in Christ (make a list from Ephesians 1)? What is our part as believers in receiving these spiritual blessings (see also 2 Cor. 1:20-22)? What does it mean to be "sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (1:13)? How is the Holy Spirit our "guarantee" (1:14)? According to Ephesians 1:15-23, how do we receive spiritual insight? What is our position in Christ?
- *Ephesians 2-3:* Describe the difference in your own life when you were "dead to sin" from the time that Jesus "made you alive" (2:1-3). What does it mean to "sit in heavenly places" with Christ (2:6)? As you consider what it means to be "His workmanship", what are some of the things that He "has prepared before hand" for your life (2:10)? Read Ephesians 3:8-13. What is God's eternal purpose for the church? How is it accomplished?
- *Ephesians 4-5:* Describe what it takes to walk in unity (4:1-6). What is the purpose of the spiritual gifts in Ephesians 4:7-12? Who gives these gifts? How do we grieve the Holy Spirit (4:25-32)? How do we walk in love (5:1-7), light (5:8-14), and wisdom (5:15-21)? What is the purpose of the marriage metaphor (5:22-33)? What do we learn about Christian marriage in this passage?
- *Ephesians 6:* What are Paul's practical instructions on how to walk as a Christian family (6:1-3); worker and business owner (6:5-9); spiritual warrior (6:10-18)? What is your battle stance in spiritual warfare? Have you experienced spiritual warfare this week?
- *Closing:* Close with prayer, using Paul's apostolic prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21 as a guide.