



How to Receive Jesus' Blessing Ephesians 1:7-12

Admit our need for Jesus because of our sin. Ephesians 1:7

- Sin =
Ephesians 2:1-3, 4:17-19 · Romans 3:23 · I John 3:4
- Danger: Sin will grow in us
Titus 3:3

Believe in Jesus' gift of redemption. Ephesians 1:7-8

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us."

- Redemption =
John 8:34-36 · Hebrews 9:12-14 · Galatians 1:3-4
- He will forgive all sins. Forgive =
Leviticus 16:9, 19
- He will lavish us according to the riches of His grace. Lavish =

Commit to grow by learning the truth of His purposes and will. Ephesians 1:9-10

"In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth."

- Wisdom =
- Insight =
- His will is a mystery to be revealed.
Deuteronomy 29:29 · Isaiah 55:8-9
- His will is under His sovereign control and timing.
Administration =
- His will is good and purposeful as seen through Christ. Philippians 2:10-11

Delight in our future inheritance from Jesus. Ephesians 1:11-12

"In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory."

- We are predestined by God to receive our inheritance. I Peter 1:3-4; Philippians 1:6
- We have hope because we believed in Jesus. Ephesians 1:13

Discuss Together:

Based on what you know about Jesus, if He were to visit you today, what would you thank Him for doing in your life?

Digging Deeper:

This letter to the city of Ephesus was written to a community of believers, not just one individual. Notice all the plural pronouns Paul uses to reveal how we must know and act on this truth together.

He begins this letter in Ephesians 1:3 assuring us that we have received “*every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.*” We do not need to ask for them, but rather, understand what they are and receive them.

LifeGroup Discussion:

What spiritual blessings can you describe that you now enjoy because of Jesus Christ? Below are some questions to better understand some of those spiritual blessings:

- What has God our Father accomplished for us in Ephesians 1:4-5? How does that provide comfort and assurance knowing of His powerful control to care for us?
- Next, Paul describes what God’s Son, Jesus Christ, has accomplished for us in Ephesians 1:7-12. What is one key blessing that Jesus offers us in Ephesians 1:7? What did He do to help us receive it?
- When did Jesus “redeem” or save you?
- We need Jesus’ redemption because of our sin. How does God view us before salvation according to Ephesians 2:1-3; 4:17-19? Do most people view themselves this way? Why or why not?
- When we are redeemed from our sin, we then need to grow in our knowledge of God’s will. Ephesians 1:9 refers to the “mystery of His will.” That can refer to many of His future plans for this world, but sometimes we do not have enough information to understand all God is doing today. Describe a time in your life when you did not know what God was doing. It may have been circumstances that are hard or difficult. What does Deuteronomy 29:29 and Isaiah 55:8-9 say to us when we do not understand what God is doing?
- Ephesians 1:11-12 talks about our inheritance from God. What do you believe Paul is referring to?
- We are predestined by God to receive that inheritance which means He has full control to make sure we get it all. What further assurance do these verses offer you on receiving His inheritance: I Peter 1:3-4; Philippians 1:6. How does that provide assurance to your life?

Next Steps:

1. **Grow Together by joining a LifeGroup.** Find a new LifeGroup to get connected during today’s LifeGroup Fair! Learn more at calvarylife.org/lifegroups
2. **Attend the Alpha Course to understand God’s will and truth for the Christian life.** The Alpha course meets on Wednesdays through October 18 from 6:30 - 8:30pm in the Lobby. For more info, visit calvarylife.org/alpha
3. **Check out the Reach Fair to find a ministry that you can use your time and talents to serve.** The Reach Fair will be in the Lobby next Sunday, September 27 after morning worship services. calvarylife.org/reach