

Life in the Beloved:

A Fresh Look at

Relationships in the

book of Ephesians



Wednesday nights auditorium

February 3-May 25, 2016

Summer Series 2016

Theme: “Time for a Check-up on Healthy Relationships”

June 1	Bill Wallace	Dealing with Guilt in our Relationships
June 8	Stacy Myers	Resolving Personal Conflict
June 15	Phil Watson	Selfishness

Summer Series 2016

June 22	Joe Lochamy	Focusing First on the Family
June 29	Jonathan Scott	What I have learned in my Profession about relationships
July 6	David Morgan	Lack of Spiritual Direction

Summer Series 2016

July 13	Mark Pratt	Working on a Common Cause
July 20	Buddy Braswell	Forgiveness
July 27	Tom Goodpasture	What Fellowship means to me

Introduction

- **Prison epistle, A.D. 60 Paul's imprisonment during Rome**
- **Location: across Aegean Sea, straight east of Athens**



Introduction

- Paul first visited, 2nd missionary trip
(**Acts 18:19-21**)
- 3rd missionary trip, stayed there
over 2 years (Acts 19:1-10, 22)



Introduction to Epistolary Literature

- Salutation/Greetings (**1:1-2**)
- Praise/Thanksgiving (**1:3-23**)
- Main Body (**2:1-6:18**)
- Benediction (**6:19-24**)



Megathemes- Relationships



- **God's purposeOur purpose is His**
- **Christ the center....“in Him”**
- **Living Church.....Body of Christ**
- **New family.....One new man**
- **Christian conduct....New life of love**

Two-fold Division

- **1:1-3:21** Life Together in Christ
- **4:1-6:24** Living a Life of Unity



Ephesians 1:1-14

Big ideas=relationships

- Paul as an apostle
- Phrase “in Christ”—1:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13 (twice)—Crucial for Paul’s thought!
- Spiritual blessings
- Love
- Adopted as sons
- Purpose of his will
- In the “heavenly realms”
- What God did for us first...next slide

What God did for us

First...

- Blessed us (**1:3**)
- Chose us (**1:4**)
- He destined us (**1:5**)
- He graced/bestowed us (**1:6**)
- He lavished on us (**1:8**)
- He made known to us (**1:9**)
- He set forth (**1:9**)
- Chosen & predestined (**1:11**)
- You were marked (**1:13**)

What have we learned about Relationships?



- **Grace, redemption,
forgiveness=redefines our
relationship with God, self & others!**
- **Freely given & lavished**
- **God's possession**
- **Sealed with the promised Spirit**

What have we learned about Relationships?

- **Apostle, saints, faith in Christ=identity**
- **Immersed in spiritual blessings=image of this!**
- **Initiated love looks for love in response**
- **Adopted as his sons=familial imagery**
- **“In Christ”=all encompassing relationship**

What have we learned about Relationships?

- February 10 1:1-14 What God did for us “in Christ”
- February 17 1:15-22 Paul’s Prayer for the Church
- February 24 2:1-7 Being made alive

- March 2 2:8-12 By Grace you have been saved
- March 9 2:13-22 Brought near in the blood of Christ

- March 16 3:1-13 Stewardship of God’s grace
- March 23 3:14-21 The Power at Work Within Us

What have we learned about Relationships?

- **April 6** **4:1-16** **When each part is working properly**
- **April 13** **4:17-24** **You did not so learn Christ!**
- **April 20** **4:25-32** **We are members one of another**
- **April 27** **5:1-11** **Walk as Children of the Light**
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- **May 4** **5:12-20** **Be Careful how you walk**
- **May 11** **5:21-33** **Be subject to one another**
- **May 18** **6:1-9** **Household Codes**
- **May 25** **6:10-24** **He may encourage your hearts**

Armor of God

- Be strong in the Lord
- We do not wrestle against
- Pieces & function of armor
- Ends with prayer



Benediction—6:21-24

- **Tychicus—Acts 20:4; Colossians 4:7; 2 Timothy 4:12; Titus 3:12**
- **Purpose twofold: know how we are & encourage**
- **Peace, love & faith**
- **Grace & love incorruptible**

Armor of God

- Belt of truth—1:13; 4:15, 21, 25
- Breastplate of righteousness—4:24
- Shoes of peace—1:2; 2:14, 15, 17; 4:3; 6:23
- Shield of faith—1:1, 15; 2:1, 8; 3:12, 17; 4:5, 13; 6:21, 23.



Armor of God

- Helmet of salvation—1:13
- Sword of the Spirit—1:13 and 17 more times!
- Prayer—1:16; 3:14

