

NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS

EPHESIANS

Pray: ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word

Think: the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word

Begin: using only your Bible, answer the questions* without other outside sources

**questions are based on New International Version (NIV)*

Lesson 2 – Ephesians 2

September 30, 2009

- I. a) To whom is “you” referring in Ephesians 2:1? Describe the condition in which “you” were (your old identity) according to Ephesians 2:1–3.
 - b) Put in your own words what you think Paul is describing:
 - transgressions and sins

 - ways of this world

 - ruler of the kingdom of the air

 - those who are disobedient

 - the cravings of our sinful nature

 - objects of wrath
 - c) Because these define what we were before faith in Christ, describe any areas in the above list in which you still struggle. Consider making this a prayer request this week.

2. a) According to Ephesians 2:5–6, what did God do to us?

- b) Rewrite these phrases in your own words, reflecting on the personal ways God has shown you what He has done.
- c) List the reasons given in Ephesians 2:4–5, 7–8 why God does what He does.
3. a) Count how many times the word “grace” appears in Ephesians 2:5–10. Why do you think the emphasis on “grace” is so important?
- b) Define “works” in Ephesians 2:9 and give examples. Define “works” in Ephesians 2:10 and give examples.
- c) Compile a list of “works” you have done this past week. Pray through this list and decide into which category of “works” each act falls. Write down your results.
4. a) What do you think God's workmanship means?

- b) Do you consider yourself God's workmanship? Why or why not? Share how you see God's workmanship in your life.
5. Memory verse: Commit to memory Ephesians 2:8–10.
6. a) Why were we as Gentiles “separate,” “excluded,” foreigners or strangers, “without hope” and “without God?” Read Romans 9:4–5, 24–26, 30–32.
- b) Why do you think it's important that we “remember” (Ephesians 2:1–3, 11–13) our former condition?
7. a) Summarize believers' new identity and what believers have gained according to Ephesians 2:13–22.
- b) According to Ephesians 2:13–17, how were these changes accomplished?
- c) What specific relationships with other believers and/or thoughts and actions towards other communities of believers need your realignment with Jesus' work in destroying barriers (walls of hostility) and making peace? Will you pray through this list with the Lord and ask for His guidance as He realigns your will with His?

8. a) Go back over your answers in question 6. What is the significance of Ephesians 2:19–20 to the modern day believer?
- b) According to Ephesians 2:19–21, describe the Lord's intent regarding the dwelling being built of your individual body and your relationship with the "whole building."