

EPHESIANS: Week 7 – Power to Win

Open in Prayer

Welcome/Introductions/Cast Vision

Remind the Grow Group of the ground rules

Share context of the story *[Provide context by sharing the information below.]*

In this passage in Ephesians, Paul is praying for the inner strength of the believers. He is praying that God would give them strength and that the Holy Spirit would dwell in their hearts through faith. He also asks that they would know the greatness of God's love by actually being rooted and ground in His love. Paul closes his prayer by assuring his audience that almighty God can do "exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think."

Tell the story – Ephesians 3:14-21 *[Have someone tell the story.]*

Rebuild the story *[Group members tell the story together based on what they remember.]*

Read the story out loud *[Read the scripture passage to see if anything was added or omitted.]*

Discuss these questions:

1. What do we learn about God from this passage? *[The power of the Holy Spirit is given to us "according to the riches of His glory" (verse 16); God desires to have an intimate and personal relationship with us; God is the only sure foundation on which we should build our lives (Matt 7:24-27); God is all-powerful and can do beyond what I can even ask or imagine (verse 20); God desires the gospel to reach the generations to come (verse 21); God wants us to experience His fullness (verse 19); etc.]*
2. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage? *[As a believer, I am a temple of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 6:19); it is only when I yield to the Holy Spirit and let Him control me that I succeed in living for His glory; I was dead without Christ, but am made alive through Him (Eph. 2:1); I must abide in Christ and make no provision for the flesh (John 15:5, Romans 13:14); I can become rooted and grounded in things that don't please the Lord; the lost are empty and miserable without a personal relationship with Jesus, etc.]*
3. What is God saying to you specifically through this passage as it pertains to your life, marriage, family, and work?
4. In light of what you've learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

Other questions specific to this passage:

1. Why is it necessary for a believer to be rooted and grounded in love? Because of God's incomprehensible love for us, what should change about our outlook on life and habits?
2. Do you pray as if God can do more than you can ask or imagine? Explain your answer.

Assign next week's passage – Ephesians 4:1-6 *[Ask someone to tell the story next week.]*

Close in Prayer

EPHESIANS: Week 7 – Leadership Coaching

The purpose of this page is to help you sharpen your skills as a Grow Group leader. Each week, we will include concepts, challenges, and resources designed to assist you as you lead and shepherd your Grow Group and grow as a disciple yourself.

Leading *[learn to facilitate your group more effectively]*

Rebuilding the story gives the whole group a chance to talk through the story from beginning to end. Start by asking the group, “What happened first in the story we just heard?” You may need to prompt them to continue using questions like, “Then what?” or “What did he do next?” Be prepared to help them fill in the blanks of the storyline.

During the rebuilding of the story, you may want to tell the Grow Group that you are going to go around the group and take turns telling the next part of the story. Alternately, you may ask one person to tell the group everything they remember about the story and then ask other group members to add to that.

Shepherding *[know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]*

Helping and supporting others is a vital aspect of group life. Be attentive to the practical needs in your Grow Group. Be aware of skills, knowledge and gifts that you or others in your group have that could be used to help one another.

Offer help, but be cautious not to offer unsolicited advice. Advice begins with “You ought to...” Help begins with “Can I offer to help by...”

Developing *[grow as a disciple yourself]*

Continuing our look at 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, the next sentence describing the characteristics of love reads, “love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude.” The Message version describes it this way, “Love doesn’t want what it doesn’t have. Love doesn’t strut, doesn’t have a swelled head.”

Examine the way you relate to people in your home, your church and your community. Read the entire passage substituting your name for the word love. If the description is not accurate, pray that God will help you make the necessary changes. It is God who brings about the transformation in your life.