

EPHESIANS

WEEK 9 – June 8 - 14



New Hope | Small Groups

THE BOOK OF
EPHESIANS
WALKING IN YOUR TRUE IDENTITY

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES:

SAFE GROUP: everyone can be real, open, and honest with their struggles and victories.

CONFIDENTIALITY: What is said in the group stays in the group.

LISTEN: really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond, or what you are going to say next.

PAUSE: Give the person sharing the chance to finish and the group the opportunity to consider what was just shared before responding.

NO "CROSS TALK": Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.

NO FIXING: We are not here to fix each other. Jesus does that part. Give encouragement; speak truth, and point to Jesus.

NO RESCUING: When people are sharing something deeply personal resist the temptation to rescue them by giving advice. This will often cause them to stop sharing.

SHARING: Be sensitive about the amount of time you share.

BE SELF-AWARE: Be self-aware of how you are personally affecting the environment through your words, actions, and non-verbal communication.

USE "I" STATEMENTS: It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but for our purposes, we want you to put yourself on the table. Try to use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "us", "we", etc.

CONFLICT: When conflict or sin issues arise, we want to make sure that we are honoring God and each other in the way we deal with these issues.

Small Group Evening Schedule:

10min - Hangout time

10min - Welcome, Opening Prayer, Group Guidelines, Announcements

10min - Follow-up discussion about Sunday's Sermon

- What is one thing you learned? What challenged you?

40min - Storying through scripture:

Continuing in our study of the book of Ephesians, today we will read verses 7 through 16 of chapter 4 and discuss what we are to do with the gifts Christ has given us.

READ: Ephesians 4:7-10

What does it mean "he took many captives"?

Discuss the gifts Christ gave to us.

READ: Ephesians 4:11-13

How do I know where and how to use my spiritual gifts?

READ: Ephesians 4: 14-16

Discuss the importance of both truth and love and the problem of having one without the other.

What part do I want to play in accomplishing God's plans?

Is what I want to do the same thing as what God has for me to do now?

CHALLENGE: What can I do now to build up and strengthen the Body of Christ?

10min - Share prayer requests & pray.

(one person write requests and email/text to the rest of the group)
