

July 18th, 2021 Summer Bible Study (Pentecost 8)

Sermon: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. ⁴He did this when he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ. He did this in accordance with the good purpose of his will, ⁶and for the praise of his glorious grace, which he has graciously given us in the one he loves. ⁷In him we also have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in keeping with the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished on us in all wisdom and insight. ⁹He made known to us the mystery of his will in keeping with his good purpose, which he planned in Christ. ¹⁰This was to be carried out when the time had fully come, in order to bring all things together in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have also obtained an inheritance, because we were predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in keeping with the purpose of his will. ¹²He did this so that his glory would be praised as a result of us, who were the first to hope in Christ. ¹³In him, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and in him, when you also believed, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. ¹⁴He is the down payment of our inheritance until the redemption of God's own possession, so that his glory would be praised.

Theme: Reconciled by the Redeemer

Link to Audio Sermon:

<http://www.christlutheranwestsalem.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/7-18-2021.mp3>

Sermon Study Guide

Ephesians Summary

“PRAISE GOD! WE ARE HIS CHURCH!”

Greeting (1:1-2)

I. The Church praises God for what He has done.

- A. Praise God for electing his church (1:3-14)
- B. Praise God for bringing us into his church (1:15 – 2:10)
- C. Praise God for including the Gentiles in his Church (2:11-13)
- D. Praise God for Paul's ministry to the Gentiles (3:1-21)

II. The Church praises God by what it does

- A. The Church practices its unity in Christ (4:1-16)
- B. The Church lives as children of God (4:17 – 6:9)
- C. The Church takes its stand with the armor of God (6:10-18)

Conclusion: Prayers and Greetings (6:19-24)

Sermon Study Guide

Contemplate these questions during the sermon and feel free to write your thoughts in the blank spaces.

1. We were elected to be God's people. When did God choose us to be his own?

Follow-up: What does this mean about why God chose us? (Grace vs. Works)

2. Who made it possible for us to be chosen by God? What was the price paid so that we would be his?

3. Why did God go to such lengths to elect us? What is the purpose in it all?

Follow-up: Who should receive the glory for those who are saved?