

FIELD GUIDE

EQUIPPED TO ENGAGE



A STUDY IN EPHESIANS

WEEK ONE

Trek 1- Current Location

1. As we begin this journey together, start by reading Ephesians 1. Make sure to take your time and soak it in.
2. This is an important letter that Paul wrote to the church. We write 'important' things in letters, on Facebook, in emails and cards. Now that you've read chapter 1, based on what Paul wrote, what do you think motivated Paul to write this letter?
3. Ephesians 1 can be referred to as the benefit package of being a Christian. Paul writes, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ." (Eph 1:3) List some of the blessings that Paul outlines for us in this chapter.
4. Think about, or even write out the ways you have experienced these blessings in your life.
5. How do these blessings *affirm* the calling and purpose that God has placed on your life?

Simple Prayer: Jesus thank you for the many benefits that have been brought to me through you. Help me to understand them more. Enable me to experience them and enjoy them as I learn to grow in the purpose and calling you have placed on my life. *Amen*

Trek 2- Evaluating Your Place

Paul wanted the church to understand their purpose and calling.

1. Read Romans 8:28-29. According to this verse what do you think it means to be called according to His purpose?
2. It is true that God has a calling or a *plan in mind* for us and his church. You were formed by God—chosen and selected according to the desires of His heart for precisely who and what you are. He created you

with a very exact design, not only to be you, but also to find your fit in His Church.

Now we can choose to go along with His plan, we can ignore it completely, or we can wander in and out of that plan. Likely in your life there have been times that you have enthusiastically responded to the Lord, and maybe even times when you have ignored Him. Ideally, God is constantly inviting us forward in this journey with Him. And for that journey He has given us everything we need to not only survive, but to prosper, flourish and even enjoy our lives, together.

Scripture is clear that He has gifted all of us with spiritual gifts and abilities to build up the church as we trek along. As we learned on Sunday, Paul writes in Ephesians 4, "¹⁵...**speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.** ¹⁶**From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.**"

3. Read Romans 12:3-8 and 1 Corinthians 12. Paul uses a human body and it's many parts to describe the church. Why do you think he uses that specific analogy?
4. Do you see yourself as a vital to the growth and health of our church?
5. Knowing that you have purpose in the Kingdom of God, what are some abilities that you feel God has gifted you specifically with to build His Kingdom?

Simple Prayer: Lord, I know that you have given so much to me. All of my talents and abilities are gifts from you. Please give me eyes to see the and a heart to understand how you desire me to use those abilities in your Kingdom. *Amen.*

Trek 3- Evaluating Your Place

Here are some fun online exercises that will help you uncover and maybe discover who God has made you to be. You might even find a hidden gifting that perhaps you weren't aware of in your own life.

Now as you go through these exercises, these aren't written in stone. They're not deep unchanging spiritual realities. However, these *side trails* really may be insightful in your own process of discovering some of the ways that God has gifted and equipped you. Ultimately your giftings and abilities have been given by God not just to make you awesome, but to be useful in ministry and service to those in your circles of influence. So take your time and enjoy exploring your surroundings!

[Side Trail #1 - designdiscovery.com/fivefold-spiritual-gifts-test/#](https://designdiscovery.com/fivefold-spiritual-gifts-test/#)

[Side Trail #2 - giftstest.com](https://giftstest.com)

[Side Trail #3 - gifts.churchgrowth.org](https://gifts.churchgrowth.org)

Did anything surprise you?

Can you see how you have been operating in those giftings even if you were unaware of them in your life?

How can you use what you found in this season of life?

Simple Prayer: Lord, thank you for making me uniquely me. You have called me and placed me specifically where I am today to minister and serve those in my circles of influence. Help me live and walk aware of the opportunities that You have given me to bless others! [Amen.](#)