

Session 1: Prayerful Worship
An Introduction to Ephesians:

Greetings (Eph. 1:1-2)
Ephesians as a Letter:

- 1) Who wrote it?
 - a)
- 2) When was it written?
 - a)
- 3) Where was it written?
 - a)
- 4) Who was the letter addressed to?
 - a)
- 5) How long was Paul in and around Ephesus? See Acts 19:8-10.
 - a)
- 6) Is Paul's greeting secular or spiritual – namely with his use of “Grace and peace...”?
 - a)
- 7) Who is Paul claiming to be? See Eph. 1:1.
 - a)

A Prayer of Worship (Eph. 1:3-14):

- 1) Paul is well known for his run-on sentences. How many sentences do you think there are in this section?
 - a)
- 2) What do these verses show us that God has accomplished through Jesus?
 - a) Eph. 1:3
 - i)
 - b) Eph. 1:5
 - i)
 - c) Eph. 1:6
 - i)
 - d) Eph. 1:7
 - i)
 - e) Eph. 1:9
 - i)
 - f) Eph. 1:11
 - i)
 - g) Eph. 1:12
 - i)
 - h) Eph. 1:13-14
 - i)

Jesus as our King:

- 1) First, how is Jesus, the Christ, our king? To answer this, it may help to consider: what does Messiah mean? How does Jesus fulfill this role?

- a)
- b)
- c)
- 2) How is a country's people affected by their king?
 - a) When the king dies?
 - i)
 - b) When a king has a successful attack?
 - i)
 - c) How does this impact us – who are in Christ?
 - i)
- 3) Part of our worship as Christians is to tell again and again God's salvation story -- all that he has accomplished in Christ, the King.
 - b)

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Take Home:

I urge you to do the following this week:

1. Worship God in prayer. Certainly, you can pray in other ways, but I especially urge you to pray in thanksgiving for the Gospel you have in Christ. Meditate on how he has blessed you, chosen you, predestined you, redeemed you, given you an inheritance in him, given us hope in him, and set forth all of these things in Christ.
2. As you pray and go about your week, meditate on how Jesus is our Messiah and thus our king. Remember: because he is king and has authority, everything God has accomplished in him is as certain as the deposit God made in you when he sealed you into his promises by the Holy Spirit in your baptism.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for all you have done for us through Jesus Christ. Thank you for blessing us, for choosing us, for predestining us, for redeeming us, for giving us an inheritance in Christ, for giving us hope, and for setting forth all these things in Christ. We not only thank you for these things. Because Christ is king and because we have been given the deposit of the Holy Spirit, we confidently trust everything you have done for us. In Jesus' name, amen.