

Questions for Ephesians wk 1

- The book of Ephesians says that Paul was the author. Why do you think scholars would even challenge this since it is in black and white?
- So Pastor Keith mentioned that both the authorship and the recipients are debated by scholars. Do you think it is helpful to know about the debates among scholars? Does it detract at all from your faith? Could it confuse younger believers?
- Paul described himself as an “apostle of Jesus Christ.” Why does Paul want people to realize his position?
 - He also said it was by the will of God that he was an apostle. What does that tell us about how Paul became an apostle? Do we think in the same manner as Paul? Why does it seem like most Christians do not use that kind of language to describe things nowadays?
- How do most people understand the word “saint” today? Why is the word “saint”, when applied to us such an encouragement?
- Throughout the book of Ephesians we encounter the concept of being “in Christ.”
 - What is your understanding of being “in Christ?”
 - Why do you think Paul described life with God as being “in Christ?”
 - What images does the phrase bring to mind?
 - Does “being in Christ” differ from being saved? If so, how so? How might that impact evangelism?
- Paul wishes the Ephesians grace and peace from the Father and from Jesus Christ.
 - Why from both of them? Why not from the Holy Spirit?
 - Is there significance to grace and peace? Why not joy and faith?
- Paul used his culture to make an impact for Jesus Christ.
 - What are some ways that Christians do use their culture to impact the world for Christ?
 - What are some ways that Christians can use their culture to impact the world for Christ?
- How is authenticity with the gospel a tool for relating to our culture?
- Since we do not see operate in the world the way the Bible describes in ancient times, have you ever fallen into the trap of thinking that God is passive?
 - What happens when you think God is passive? Active?
- What does the fact that God is setting apart a people for Himself mean to you?