

# WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

## LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

### *The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation” Pt.1*

Thursday, September 22, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

*Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching*

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#### OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

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#### WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

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If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

#### PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

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#### FACILITATION OF LESSON

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*Sermon Title: “The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation,” Pt.1*

#### POINT 1

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We are beginning our study of what we call the *Ephesian Prayer*. It is written in the book of **Ephesians 1:17**, where Paul prayed, *“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.”* There are things that are hidden for us in Christ. We sometimes think so much is hidden from us, yet God has chosen revelation as His way of revealing things. God seems to play hide and seek with us. The good news is when we seek Him, we will find Him when we search for Him with all our heart. That’s what God told the Prophet Jeremiah in **Jeremiah 29:13-14**:

*“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the LORD”*

The key is you have to seek God with all of your heart. It can’t be a casual thing. He says when you seek Him with all your heart, like you really want to get to know Him, he says I will be found of you. The Amplified Bible of **Jeremiah 29:13** reads, *“Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.”* That’s means you’ve come to a place where you realize you really need God.

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God actually enjoys revealing himself; He chooses to reveal Himself. Why? **Colossians 2:3 AMP** tells us, *“In whom [in the Lord] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge [regarding the word and purposes of God].”*

#### QUESTIONS

1. What happens when you have an overwhelming desire to find out who God is for yourself? How do you come to that place?
2. Why does God enjoy revealing Himself?

We are right now on the cutting edge of an increase in the revelation of God that will launch a revolution that will change this generation. The word, **“Revolutions”** means *to effect radical change; any fundamental complete change; the replacement of a government or political system*. Think about it; the Apostle Paul’s revelation of Jesus Christ caused not only radical change in his life, but the lives of millions of people over the past 2000 years. Even now, Paul’s revelation is being preached in thousands of languages, in hundreds of thousands of pulpits all over the world.

Paul’s revelation of the Gospel of Christ has unlocked the greatest of all mysteries. What God has revealed in Christ has uncovered the eternal purpose for every man. I’m talking about God’s love, God’s power, God’s goodness, God’s righteousness, God’s wisdom – all are revealed in the gospel of Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:17 AMP**, says, *“Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].”* This scripture describes a radical change.

#### QUESTIONS

1. What is a revolution in your own words?
2. How did Paul’s revelation of the Gospel of Christ radically change people and the world?

#### POINT II

There’s a story of four blind men who were each holding on to a different part of an elephant. One held the tail and said an elephant was like a rope. One held the leg and said an elephant was like a tree. One held the trunk and said an elephant was like a snake. One felt the side of the elephant and said he was like a wall. Each man’s revelation was limited to the part of the elephant he experienced. Many of us are like that today with our relationship with God. God wants to open our eyes to see the whole elephant. There is more that God has for us. Albert Einstein once said, *“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when one contemplates the*

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*mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day.”*

Paul’s prayer in Ephesian’s 1:17-23 is for the church to advance and influence every generation through the power of revelation. The mystery of our redemption is now revealed in Christ. Today, God wants the church to enjoy and display the light and revelation of Jesus Christ to all men as well as to unseen powers in heavenly places.

#### QUESTIONS

1. Why are we sometimes limited in our perception when it comes to our relationship with God?
2. Why is it important for us to never stop questioning?
3. Why was it important to Paul that we have revelation of the mystery of our redemption?

In the **Book of Ephesians 3:9-11**, the Apostle Paul said, *“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: But now it is being revealed in us and through us. 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord”*

He’s saying the Church is displaying the many-sided wisdom of God to men, angels, and devils. The church is experiencing a breakthrough in revelation that is bringing a revolution to this generation.

As we pray the Ephesians Prayer in **Ephesians 1:17-23** and **Ephesians 3:14-21**, we are contending for exponential increase in revelation. We are contending for the Glory of God in the church today. Change is in the atmosphere, and we are to usher in this change using Jesus as our example.

When Jesus was raised from the dead, he did not say, I hope that helped you just a little bit. Jesus did not die and go through the suffering of the cross and being raised from the dead just to help a little bit. He brought radical change! When Jesus was raised from the dead, he said in **Matthew 28:18**, *“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”* In Christ, we read old things have passed away and now everything is new. This changes everything!

#### QUESTIONS

1. What is the Church displaying to the men, angels and devils?
2. What were the results of Jesus being raised from the dead?

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For example, consider Albert Einstein and his theory of relativity. You can go to the bookstore and read book after book. That level of reading would be way above most people's heads. Even if you found the book, *Albert Einstein for Dummies*, it would probably be difficult to understand.

There are a lot of documentaries that explain how Einstein's groundbreaking discovery completely reshaped the field of physics. Einstein's famous theory,  $E=mc^2$ , was a revolutionary revelation that forever changed the way scientists thought about how space and time relate to matter and energy. Einstein apologized to Isaac Newton because they ended up having to re-write all of his physics books. This breakthrough completely changed the way we view the world by opening quantum physics and unlocking the atom and nuclear fission. He said, *“This changes everything.”*

#### QUESTION

1. How did Einstein's revelation change things?

#### POINT III

The Apostle Paul's revelation of who the believer is *“In Christ”* is much greater than Einstein's discovery. What God did in Christ has truly changed everything. The Blood of Jesus has mightily prevailed in three separate places. It prevailed in Heaven, in Hell, and in your heart. How did the blood forever change heaven? To understand this let's look at **2 Corinthians 5:17** once again. It says, *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* **The Weymouth's Translation reads,** *“The old state of things has passed away; a new state of being has come into existence.”* When Jesus died on the cross, he became sin for us, and his death was the death of the sinful old creation. Jesus' blood was the redeeming price paid to buy back humanity from the power of Satan. It broke the curse of sin and all its affects. Jesus shed his blood, defeated sin, was justified in the spirit, and then raised from the dead. As our forerunner, he ascended and took his blood into heaven and placed it there in the Holy of Holies according to **Hebrews 9:12**, where it says, *“Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.”* Jesus' blood opened heaven for us according to **Hebrews 10:19**, where it says, *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.”* Now the blood is on the altar before the Father, forever speaking mercy and grace. **His blood changed everything in heaven!**

#### QUESTION

1. Read this once again carefully before answering this question. How did Jesus Blood change everything in heaven? Explain because there's a lot in here!

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The Blood of Jesus prevailed in hell according to **Revelation 12:11**, where it says, “*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*” The blood triumphed over hell! How do we know this? In **Colossians 2:15**, the Bible says, “*And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*” In where? In hell! Many of us know Andraé Crouch’s song, ‘*The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power*’ referring to the Blood of Jesus that says, “*It reaches to the highest mountain and flows to the lowest valley.*” Jesus triumphed over the devil in the confines of humanity as a god-man. He defeated Satan for every man. Jesus triumphed over Satan himself with his own blood so that we can overcome as a new creation. Jesus’ Blood overcomes all the power of Satan and hell.

#### QUESTION

1. Read this carefully when answering this question. How did the Blood change everything in hell? Explain!

The blood changed our heart. **Hebrews 10:21** says, “*And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*” This truth is also found in **Hebrews 10:16 NLT** “*This is the New Covenant I will make with my people on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.*” Now let’s look at: **Colossians 1:22 TLB**, “*He has done this through the death on the cross of his own human body, and now as a result Christ has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are standing there before him with nothing left against you—nothing left that he could even chide you for.*” Your heart has become the dwelling place for God, the meeting place between a righteous child and a Holy Father God. This changes everything in your heart!

1. Read this carefully before answering this question. How did the Blood change your heart? Explain!

Because of the Blood and by faith in the Blood believers may boldly access the most Holy Place in prayer. Paul said in **Ephesians 3:12**, “*In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.*” A person cannot be in God presence for a moment without being changed! Burden’s are lifted, power is increased, revelation is granted and the love, joy, faith, and fire of God are experience.

In **2 Corinthians 3:18**, Paul, who knew the formality and deadness of religion and the old law of Moses, wrote about something that happens when any person in Christ accesses the throne room. Let’s examine several translations of **2 Corinthians 3:18**:

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#### **2 Corinthians 3:18 MSG**

*All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.*

#### **2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT**

*And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.*

#### **2 Corinthians 3:18 AMPC**

*And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit.*

Because of the Blood of Jesus, any person in Christ has been granted full access to the very presence of God. We have to take advantage of all that has been done to open Heaven, overcome Hell and open our hearts to the Glory of God. Like Paul prayed, may you be granted, by the spirit's power, a revolutionary revelation.

#### **QUESTIONS**

1. What does faith in the Blood grant us?
2. What are the results being in the presence of God?
3. What do we have to take advantage of?

#### **CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)**

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#### **PRAISE REPORTS - \*2-MINUTES PER PERSON**

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#### **PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)**

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##### **Prayer focus:**

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:

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- a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian and the ministerial staff.
- b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

**Have you reached out to your circle today?**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)**

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1. Join Covenant Partner’s for a Movie Night in the Courtyard Friday, September 23, 2022 at 7:00 pm for more information contact Minister Oysterman at wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com.
2. Join the SWAT team for their next outing Saturday, September 24, 2022. Prayer begins promptly at 11:00 am. For more information contact Minister Julie Francis
3. Join us on the Miracle Line where sickness disappear and wholeness appears through Jesus Christ on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s at 11:00 am by conference call, Facebook, YouTube and the Word of Faith Website. The call-in number for the Early Morning Prayer and the Miracle Line is (717) 908-1834, access code 755875#.
4. Then Join us for Noon Day Prayer, with Evangelist Sharon Walker. Join us for 1-hour to pray. This is an In-person Prayer Service at Word of Faith.
5. Pastor and Evangelist Walker have launched an initiative called **WOFICC CARES**. It is their desire to serve the needs of the families in our church, in our community and throughout the Caribbean. Your help is needed! Monetary donations are being accepted to be a blessing to those truly in need. When making your donation to please write **"Gift for WOFICC CARES."** **WOFICC CARES** about our church family! **WOFICC CARES** about our community! **WOFICC CARES** about the Islands of the Caribbean!

### **OFFERING**

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- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

### **CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL**

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