

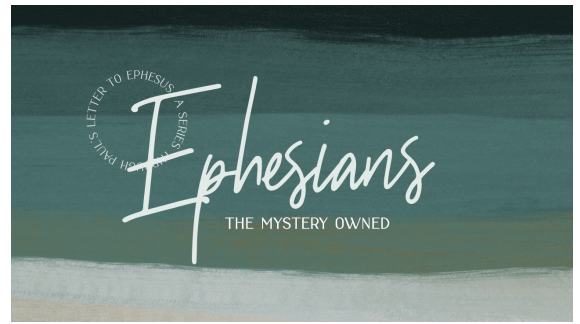
Northland Christian Church

Group Discussion Guide

Series: Ephesians – The Mystery Owned

Text: Ephesians 5:15-20

For the Week of February 7, 2021



• Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. Do not feel like you have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.

Connection and Introduction

(answer one or some of the following as you feel is beneficial for your group)

- Share a couple of the best decisions you've made in your life.
- Share one of the worst decisions you've made in life.

"The most important thing about you is not the things you achieve but the person you become."
- Dallas Willard

Engage the Scriptures - Read Ephesians 5:15-20 with the group.

Discussion Questions

1. According to verses 15 and 16, what is God's desire for followers of Jesus?
2. What factors of life make this easy? What makes it difficult?
3. Have there been people in your life that have helped you fulfill these verses? How did they help?
4. Why might God want us to pursue "making the most of every opportunity"? What does this say about God's heart for people? What does this say about His goals for us?

Remember that:

"Wisdom is including God in every decision and trusting Him with the outcome." - Dave Rizer

5. When you hear this quote, what comes to mind for you? Is this easy or difficult to apply? In what ways? (See James 1:5 and Proverbs 3:13-18 for more)
6. Dave shared that the key question for decision-making is: "What is the wise thing to do?"
7. Have you utilized this question before? How has it helped?
8. How would our lives be different if we applied these truths to our work and relationships?

Dave also shared that we often: "Run ahead of God." We also "Resist the will of God."

9. How have you seen this in your life? In the lives of those you love?
10. Paul lists drunkenness in verse 18. Dave mentioned that we often turn to this, and other addictions and habits as distractions, methods to dull the pain, and deal with pressures. Paul also gives us the antidote or the answer to pressure, stress, pain, and problems: being filled with the Spirit of God. How have you pursued this in your life?
11. Verses 19 and 20 lead us once again to worship, praise, and thanksgiving. How often are these a part of your life outside of public gatherings? How could you leverage these more?

Apply It - Gratefulness, Prayer & Worship

12. Spend a few minutes sharing 3 things that you are thankful for right now. If time, you might share a couple of your favorite worship songs. Then spend some time in thanksgiving and prayer together.