

Digging Deeper
January 8, 2012
"Thank You Lord!"
Ephesians 1:1-14
Southside Bible Church / Ken Dalton

It's a brand new yearand no better time to remind ourselves of "What the Lord has done for us and What He has promised yet to do". Ephesians 1: 1-14 represent 14 wonderful reminders of both of these truths. Let's start at verse number 1 and just walk down through all 14 verses:

1. What does it mean in verse 3 where it says, "who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ?" Is this really true? If a son is given a particular inheritance from his father when the son reaches a certain age.....when does the son actually get the blessing of the inheritance?

2. According to verse number 4, Who chose us and when were we chosen?

3. According to the last part of verse 4, why were we chosen?

4. Verse five (5) refers to adoption. Take some time to discuss the differences between being a child by birth and being a child by adoption.

5. Verse seven (7) uses the word "redemption". What does redemption mean? Is there always a price to be paid in order to redeem something? What are we redeemed from? What is the price of our redemption? Why can't we redeem ourselves?

6. Why is it that we could not be accepted in the Beloved until we were first redeemed ?

7. Verse number nine (9) refers to the "mystery". Why do you think God's plan of salvation starts out as a "mystery". Is God playing games with man? Is this fair?

8. What do you think "the dispensation of the fullness of times" refers to in verse ten (10)?

9. Verses 14 and 15 talk about our guarantee that we are truly saved. What is that guarantee? How do we really know that we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit?

Someone has said that being given the Holy Spirit is like getting engaged to your future husband or wife. Why is that true?

“As His Manner Was”

Acts 17:2

Jeff Sievertson

1. Paul’s preaching at the synagogue was a _____ that was part of his ministry.
2. There is no _____ when it comes to serving Jesus Christ. You either gather people to Christ, or scatter them away from Him.
3. Two reasons as to why you might find it difficult to work the works of the Lord (*1 Cor 15:58; 16:10; Eph 2:10*)
 - You have been _____ by others to see yourself as a person that cannot fully see the Lord.
 - You are making _____ and your heart is not for the Lord.
4. When you truly love Jesus, you won’t say; I _____ to do good works for the Lord. You will say; I _____ to do good works for the Lord.

Answers:

1. reoccurring practice
2. middle ground
3. influenced, excuses
4. have, want