

## ADOPTION

September 6, 2020

### Reading Plan

#### Day 1-

READ: [Ephesians 1:1-23](#)

REFLECT: Verses 3-14 are one long sentence in the original Greek. What are the blessings in God, in Christ, in the Spirit that are described here?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Use Paul's prayer in verses 15-23 to ask God for understanding as you live in the truth of these blessings.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LISTEN: The church at Ephesus would have listened to this letter from Paul-probably read by Tychicus (Ephesians 6:21-22). Use the YouVersion Bible app or another app to listen to the entire letter or just chapter 1.

#### Day 2-

READ: [Ephesians 1:3-6](#); [Romans 9:4-5](#)

REFLECT: According to Ephesians 1:3-6, what have Christians been chosen for "before the foundation of the world"? How does Romans 9:4-5 reinforce this truth?

PRAY: The truths of Paul's letter to the Ephesian church are also truths for all who call Christ their Savior. Replace the pronouns us/we with I/me and use the beauty of this truth to lead you into a prayer of praise to the Father and to the Son.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

REFLECT: *"Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God."* (Definition from the Westminster Shorter Catechism, 34)

#### Day 3-

READ: [Ephesians 1:3-6](#); [Galatians 4:4-6](#)

REFLECT: Our adoption into God's family has always been His plan. By what means was this fully accomplished according to Galatians 4? What did it cost God, the Father? What did it cost Jesus?

PRAY: Consider writing your prayer like a letter today. Address it to your Father and allow yourself to fully express your gratitude, your love, your joy, your heart to Him, knowing that you are a son or a daughter whom He loves dearly.

#### Day 4-

READ: [Romans 8:1-17](#)

REFLECT: How do these verses describe the new life you have as an adopted son/daughter of God? Underline, highlight, or write down the many ways in which you are blessed with new life and a better standing through the work of Christ and the power of the Spirit.

PRAY/ PRACTICE:

TAKE IT FURTHER!

STUDY: "[Adoption](#)" - a theological essay from The Gospel Coalition.

REFLECT: *"Forgiven and sanctified saints are the adopted sons of God—adorned with royal, familial privileges, interminable comfort and stunning glory."*

#### Day 5-

READ: [Genesis 12:1-3](#); [Mathew 28:18-20](#);

REFLECT: "Adoption drives the blessed to bless." [Pastor Stephen Hay] From the call of Abram to Jesus' final words on earth, God has shown love to His people and intended that they extend that love and blessing to others.

PRACTICE: How will you open your heart, your eyes, your ears, your hands, to be a blessing in someone's life today? In what tangible way can you extend the love of God to someone? Write down a few ideas. Make a plan. Follow through.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

PRACTICE: [21 Ways to Get Involved in Orphan Care](#)