



GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of July 1st

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

Get Started:

What is one thing about you that everyone who knows you knows is true?



UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: Ephesians 3:1-13. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful. Pray for your study of God's Word.

1. Paul is a prisoner. Why doesn't this simple fact discredit his ministry or his message?
2. In Scripture a mystery is not something that cannot be known but something that, although once hidden, has been revealed. What mystery is Paul talking about in verse 3? Is this the same mystery or a different mystery in verse 4?
3. In the NIV verse 10 refers to the "manifold wisdom of God." What does "manifold" mean?
4. How does including Gentiles in the Body of Christ demonstrate the manifold wisdom of God to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places? How does including the Gentiles demonstrate the power of God?
5. What does it mean to approach God with confidence? What would it look like to not have freedom and confidence to approach God?
6. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest), how free and confident do you feel in approaching God? Explain your response.



IN: Connect with Each Other

What are you learning about the wisdom of God in this group that you wouldn't be able to learn on your own?

Spend some time praying for one another that you will continue to grow in the wisdom of God together.



Out: : Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

It is no secret that as people we are more comfortable surrounding ourselves not with the rich variety of God's creation, but with the thin slice that seems most similar to us. Pay attention to the ways people cluster this week. Ask God to open your eyes to the ways He is at work in all the different clusters.