

# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Online Only Via Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

*Christian Community*

*Being, Knowing, Doing*

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## Bible Study Schedule Oct – Nov 2021

Date	Study Title	Scriptures
<b>10/13/2021</b>	Built To Last	Eph. 2:11 – 22
<b>10/20 /2021</b>	Everyone's Involved	I Cor. 12
<b>10/27/2021</b>	Everyone's Invited	Philemon
<b>11/3/2021</b>	Community Commissioned	Luke 10:1 – 20
<b>11/10/2021</b>	And They'll Will Know We Are Christians	John 13:1 – 17; 34 – 35
<b>11/17/2021</b>	We Gather	Psalm 100
<b>11/24/2021</b>	Thanksgiving Break	No Study

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## This Week's Lesson – October 13, 2021

### Christian Community: Being, Knowing, Doing

#### Lesson 1:

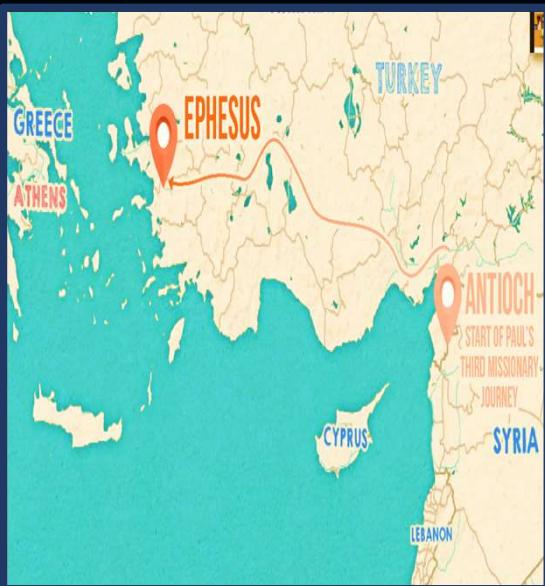
#### Built To Last

Ephesians 2:11 – 22



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### Overview Of The Church of Ephesus



- An important city in Roman empire on the west shore of Asia Minor (modern Turkey)
- On Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey (A.D. 52), he evidently planted the church (Acts 18:19).
- 10 yrs. later, in prison, Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians praising their faith and love (A.D. 62).
- Jesus commends the Ephesian Church on their good works but rebukes them for leaving their first love (Rev. 2:1-7).

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## Introduction To Paul's Letter To The Ephesians

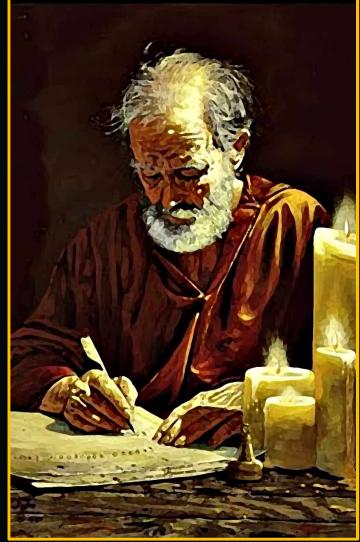
**Author:** Eph. 1:1 identifies the author of the Book as the Apostle Paul.

**Date of Writing:** Between 60-63. A.D

**Purpose of Writing:** The aim of this epistle is to confirm and to equip the maturing Ephesian church.

**Practical Application:**

- As followers of Christ, we must fully understand who God declares us to be.
- We must also become grounded in the knowledge of God's saving work for all humanity.
- There is a connection between sound doctrine and right practice in the Christian life.



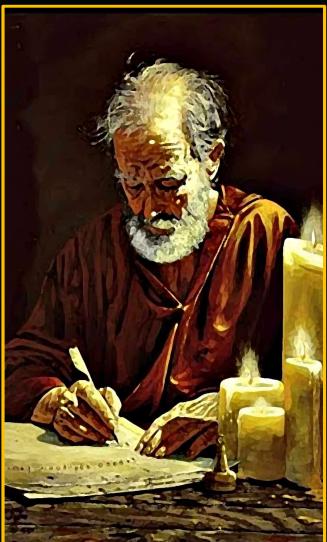
The Apostle Paul

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## Introduction To Paul's Letter To The Ephesians

**Paul's Writing Breaks Down Into 3 Main Segments:**

- Chapters 1 – 3: Principles with respect to God's accomplishment in Salvation.
- Chapters 4 – 5: Principles regarding our present existence.
- Chapter 6: Principles concerning our daily struggle.



The Apostle Paul

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# Read Ephesians 2:11 – 22

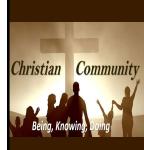
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1. How would you describe Paul's emotions about Christ and the church?

### Paul's Emotions About The Church

- **Sense Of Unity in Christ:** Paul rejoices that in Christ Jews and Gentiles are now united to God and each other by faith.
- **Strength Of Family of Christ:** He rejoices in the adoption of the have been “far off” now enjoy all the blessings with him
- **Spiritual Priesthood in Christ:** He is passionate about the Priesthood – Spirit fueled worship and service to the Lord

*“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people... I Peter 2:9 (NKJV)*



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## 1. How would you describe Paul's emotions about Christ and the church?

### Paul's Emotions About Christ

- **Appreciation For Purpose & Work of Christ:** He thanks God Jesus' Sacrifice on the Cross the reconciles us to God and one another
- **Adoration For the Person of Christ:** He praises and worship Jesus for giving us peace with and access to God.
- **Adulation & Submission to Position of Christ:** He sees Jesus as the ultimate authority Whom the Gospel and the Church is built upon.

*14 For the love of Christ compels us, ...that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 2 Cor. 5:14-15 (NKJV)*

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## 2. What was the relationship between Jew and Gentile before Christ came (vv. 11-13)?

- **Social Separation:** The Gentiles did not share the religious and cultural heritage of the Jewish people.
- **Spiritual Separation:** With a few exceptions, Gentiles were considered outside the promises God made to the Jews
- **Scriptural Separation:** The OT law put distinction between Jews and Gentiles – God's plan of salvation was put in motion via the Jews.

*Note: Israel considered itself the special people of God. They had received God's revealed law and his particular blessings.*

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**3. Explain what Paul means by the “dividing wall of hostility” (v. 14).**

**The Wall of Hostility/Separation can be defined several ways:**

- **Metaphorically:** The “wall” represents the hostility we have toward those who are different from us (racial, social, political, etc.)
- **Physically:** In the temple, a non-Jew beyond the dividing “wall” was considered an important breach of Jewish law
- **Biblically/Spiritually:** The wall of Hostility can also mean man’s sin that separates us from a Holy God – making us His enemies.

*But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. Isaiah 59:2 (KJV)*



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**4. Christ himself “is our peace” (v. 14). How did he accomplish this peace (vv. 14-18)?**

- **Fulfillment In The Cross:** Jesus obedience to God’s Law is the fulfillment of God’s Prophecy of the Messiah/Savior (Gen. 3:15).
- **Atonement At The Cross:** Jesus gave His life Body and blood as the Lamb of God to take all our sins (John 1:29)
- **Pronouncement Of Cross:** The Gospel is the Good News to all people – reconciling us God and to one another (John 12: 22)

*Note: Sin in our lives alienates us from God and, therefore, from each other. The cross destroyed that sin barrier forever.*



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## 5. How do “dividing walls of hostility” keep people from hearing the gospel today?

- **Historical Walls:** Issues of the past pain, grief and injustice that are reflected on and are difficult lay aside.
- **Prejudicial Walls:** Sometimes we presume things about God and others based on our own thoughts and feelings.
- **Social/Cultural Walls:** We label people and the Gospel as only being for a certain type of people (those who think, act, vote like us)



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## 6. Paul compares Christians to citizens and family members (v. 19) In what ways does each of these two comparisons hold true?

- **Common Governance:** We are all under the Authority and rule of the God and His Word.
- **Common Importance:** We all have the same value regardless of our state and station in life.
- **Common Dependence:** We are dependent on God and on one another in receiving and sharing His Love.
- **Common Assignment:** We are united to Worship, Teach and Proclaim the Gospel.



*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalm 133:1 (NKJV)*

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## 7. What building materials make up the construction described in verses 20-22?

- **Scriptural Materials:** A true Church and the Individual Believer are built on the sound material of the Word of God.
- **Sacrificial Materials:** Individuals remain and grow in the building by sacrificial service to Christ and to one another.
- **Spiritual Materials:** Materials like prayer, praise, sound doctrine, fellowship, etc. that provides a place for God to dwell.

*“...everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. Matt 7:24 (KJV)*



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## 8. Verse 22 identifies the true resident of the “building.” How does his presence affect your attitude toward the church?

- **Reverence:** Knowing the Sovereign ruler of the universe is among us, should fill us with awe, wonder, and joy.
- **Acceptance:** Rejoicing in God’s acceptance of me in Christ and expressing the same to others around me.
- **Confidence/Evidence:** Boldness in who God says I am and allowing Spirit to express His life through me.

*For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” Matt 18:20 (NKJV)*



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**9. How will you become a more functional part of this dwelling place of God that is under construction (v. 21)?**

- **Develop A Praying Spirit:** Instead of complaining, we should pray for church leaders and members, interceding on their behalf (Eph. 6:18).
- **Participate In On-going Discipleship:** Members should disciple one another. Consistency in worship, prayer, and Bible Study helps you and others to grow.
- **Practice Evangelism:** Every member should be involved in personal evangelism. Pastors are responsible to equip the saints (Eph. 4:12).



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**9. How will you become a more functional part of this dwelling place of God that is under construction (v. 21)?**

- **Celebrate Each Other:** Celebrating the work of God in the lives of others will help us less of ourselves and brings glory to God.



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## Keys For Living

- The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only means that brings all people together despite our racial, cultural, gender or societal differences.
- When a Church is built on the faith and the Word of Christ, it will be able to stand, regardless of the opposition.
- When believers are connected to one another in the local Church, everyone will be able to reach their full potential in Christ.



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*Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone,  
in whom the whole building, being fitted together,  
grows into a holy temple in the Lord,  
in whom you also are being built together for a  
dwelling place of God in the Spirit.*

**Ephesians 2:21 - 22**

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