

February 2022

As we continue our reading together through the letter to the Ephesians this month, we will be challenged as the apostle Paul admonishes believers to imitate God in all things, to live a life of love and to follow after the example of Jesus, whose sacrificial example serves as a model for our own lives. As we do, every area of our lives will be affected, our family life, our conduct in the community, and our sexuality.

We'll discuss what it means to submit to one another, particularly in the marriage relationship. Paul, in talking about Christ's church, draws an analogy from marriage that teaches us much about the sort of relationship that husbands and wives are to share. While it is often emphasized that the wife is to submit to her husband, we must keep this in context with 5:21 which reminds us that we are ALL to submit to one another. This is the posture of the Christian. Similarly, wives are to respect their husbands. Instruction for Children and parents follows. Indeed, the gospel should affect all of our relationships, even the relationship well known in Paul's day between a slave and his master.

Finally, in a beautifully worded conclusion, Paul exhorts us to put on the full armor of God! Talk about what it means to arm ourselves with the armor he describes and about what it means to be attacked by the "devil's schemes." Share together, laugh together and enjoy being together. Next month, we will be kicking off a new season of small groups and I encourage you to be in prayer about what group the Lord would have you be a part of or how you might continue in this group. Blessings!

-Jim

Discovery Bible Study

Begin with Prayer

What have you been praying about that you would like the group to pray for?

- ◆ *Gratitude*— What happened last week you are most thankful for?
- ◆ *Intercession*— How can we pray for you this week?

Read the text & discuss...

- 1) What do we learn about God, his nature, character or plan?
- 2) What do we learn about ourselves, our nature, our weaknesses, our needs?
- 3) How do I need to respond to this text? What is it calling me to do?
- 4) Who will I share this with this week?

How can we help with a challenge you're facing?

Weekly Schedule

February 13	Ephesians 5:1-20
February 20	Ephesians 5:22-6:4
February 27	Ephesians 6:5-23

A New Season of Small Groups kicks off Sunday, March 6 at 5pm! Join us as we "ReConnect" to the Lord, to His church and to one another this year!