

Ephesians

A Real Piece of Work

Week Two

Well, we finished the first week of this journey together! Hopefully, whether you are a seasoned Bible Scholar or this is all new to you, you agree that the “together” part is important. We get more from our Bible Study by sharing it with friends. I pray that you will stick with us as we continue practicing the skills we’re learning—and sharing what God shows us along the way. If the first week was a challenge for you, keep after it! Anyone with a little more experience will tell you it gets easier with practice.

Last week, we focused on seeing the details of a passage by reading it, marking it up, and listing one or two things we noticed about each verse. This week, we’ll be adding a step that we call **“Lump and Label.”** When we “Lump and Label” a passage we pull back from the details a little bit to see how they fit together. We look for sections of our passage that communicate one idea. Then we write a short summary of that idea. Here’s an example: In last week’s focus passage, Ephesians 1:1-23 we might see three “lumps”: verses 1-2, 3-14, and 15-23. We could label the first lump, “Greeting!” The second lump, “Praise God for all He’s done for us.” And, the third lump might be called, “A Powerful Prayer.” And now a hint: Paragraphs often make good “lumps.” ☺

If you do your Bible Study all in one sitting, like many of us, you’ll probably want to have other times with God during the week. We’ve provided some “Daily Time with God Journaling Sheets” in the back tab of this notebook to help you keep a record of those times if you wish.

Don’t forget to wrap up your Bible Study time by “putting skin on” what you’ve seen. Identify at least one way to put in to practice what you saw in this week’s focus passage.

Week Two Homework

Observe (What Do I SEE?)

Pray...Read...Mark up the passage...List 1-2 observations per verse.

Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV)

Observations

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable

riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in
Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift
of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.
¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ
Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in
advance for us to do.

“Lump and Label” ...Go back over the passage and look for 2-4 “lumps” of content that together express one idea. Give each “lump” a “label.” Try to make your labels as brief as possible.

<i>Lump (verses)</i>	<i>Label</i>

Apply (How Does it WORK?)

Make it practical. Now that you have spent some time looking in detail at God's Word, don't stop! Ask yourself, "How does this work...in general...and for ME?" You may find it helpful to look for...

S—a SIN to avoid

P—a PROMISE to claim

E—an EXAMPLE to follow

C—a COMMAND to obey

K—KNOWLEDGE of God to believe

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to write their application of the text. It occupies the lower half of the page.