

Lesson 9

NT Book: Ephesians

Book Theme: The Gospel Pulls Us Together

Key Verse: Eph. 2:19

Summary: The city of Ephesus was full of Gentiles who came to conduct business and to worship a famous idol named Artemis. While on his third missionary journey, Paul spent over two years in Ephesus, preaching the Gospel not only to the locals Jews and Gentiles, but to those passing through, as well! As these travellers returned home, the gospel spread from Ephesus to Gentiles throughout all of Asia (Acts 19:10). After this journey, Paul spent time in prison and under house arrest (Acts 21-28). Even though Paul couldn't freely move about the countryside, he continued to preach the good news to those around him. He also wrote four letters that came to be known as the prison epistles. The book of Ephesians is one of those letters. Paul loved the Ephesians very much, and he wanted them to live as one body of Jews and Gentiles, unified by sound teaching. They were to see each other as God sees them, not as "foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household" (Eph. 2:19). Jesus had torn down the wall of hostility between the two groups (Eph. 2:14), and worshipping peacefully together would not only please God, but would show the world that the Gospel Pulls us Together!

Video: The Riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:11-41)

Teaching Points: Demonstrate the group being divided, then the divider removed.

Class Time

Review Activities

- Review flash cards
- "Tie Up A Verse" -Print each word of a verse to be reviewed on 3 x 5 cards. Make several sets. Punch a hole in the top of each set of cards. Give each child a piece of yarn. Jumble the cards and have children work together to thread the cards onto the yarn in proper order. Repeat until everyone can repeat the verse.

Small Group Activity

- Work together to complete a worksheet that reviews all the themes on one side and verses on the other.

Large Group Activity

- Come up with something to make a wall and knock down with balls or rubberbands.

Take Home Page

- Send a take home page with each child and encourage them to spend time with God during the week.

New Testament - Lesson 9

Ephesians

Theme: The Gospel Pulls Us Together

Key Verse: So then you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household.

Eph. 2:19

Ephesians

The city of Ephesus was full of Gentiles who came to conduct business and to worship a famous idol, Artemis. Paul spent over two years in Ephesus, preaching the Gospel not only to the locals Jews and Gentiles, but to those passing through, as well! As these travellers returned home, the gospel spread from Ephesus to Gentiles throughout all of Asia (Acts 19:10). Later in life, when Paul was in prison (Acts 21-28), he used the time to write four letters that came to be known as the prison epistles. The book of Ephesians is one of those letters. Paul urged the Ephesians to live as one body of Jews and Gentiles, unified by sound teaching. They were to see each other as God sees them, not as "foreigners and strangers, but as fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household" (Eph. 2:19). Worshipping peacefully together would not only please God, but would show the world that the Gospel Pulls us Together!

This Week

Read Ephesians 4:1-4, 15-16.

1. What are some of the key qualities that help us to keep unity in Christ?
2. Who is the head of the church "body"?
3. How can unity with other Christians help the body grow stronger?



Match the Bible book with its correct theme.

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| A. Mark | ___ The Gospel Pulls Us Together |
| B. Romans | ___ The Story of Jesus as the King |
| C. Ephesians | ___ The Story of Jesus as the Servant |
| D. Galatians | ___ The Story of Jesus as the Perfect Man |
| E. Acts | ___ The Story of Jesus as the Savior |
| F. Matthew | ___ The Holy Spirit Starts the Church |
| G. Luke | ___ The Gospel Explained |
| H. 1 & 2 Corinthians | ___ The Gospel Cleans Up Messes |
| I. John | ___ The Gospel Sets Us Free |



Match the verse reference with the correct verse.

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| ___ Matthew 6:33 | 1. But these are written so that you may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing you may have life in His name. |
| ___ Mark 10:45 | 2. So then you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of God's household. |
| ___ Luke 19:10 | 3. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life—a ransom for many. |
| ___ John 20:31 | 4. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. |
| ___ Acts 1:8 | 5. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. |
| ___ Romans 6:23 | 6. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. |
| ___ 2 Corinthians 5:17 | 7. For you were called to be free, brothers; only don't use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love. |
| ___ Galatians 5:13 | 8. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. |
| ___ Ephesians 2:19 | 9. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. |