

The Book of Ephesians

8

Morning Devotions

In your devotions this morning, read **Psalm 63**. As you read, talk to the Lord about the content of this psalm. When you have finished, go back and find one or two verses and meditate prayerfully on them.

Morning Study

As we continue to study the book of Ephesians, we will begin this morning to take a closer look at one particular section of Ephesians.

The first natural section of Ephesians falls between **Ephesians 1:1** and **Ephesians 2:10**. This section can also be divided into three sub-sections, as Paul artfully builds his message premise upon premise. Now read the following subsections and answer for yourself the questions associated with them. Jot the answers down on a piece of paper and file the paper together with your morning study.

Read Ephesians 1:1-14

- How is the content of verse 3 expanded on in the following verses?
- Note how many times the word “chosen” (or “called” in some Bibles) is used.
- What is Paul seeking to get across to the Ephesians in this subsection?

Read Ephesians 1:15-23

- Paul starts off with the statement: “For this reason...” For what reason is he talking about? (Read the verses immediately beforehand to find out).
- In **1:18-19**, what are the three things Paul wants us to have revelation in?
- What is the major revelation of Jesus Christ in this subsection and how does it affect us?

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

- What is the description of our lives found in **2:1-3**?
- **2:4-5** is the pivot scripture in this subsection. Why?
- How does **2:6** connect with **1:19-23**?
- Go through this subsection and count the number of times the words “grace” or “mercy” are used. What is the main message, then, of this subsection?

MEMORY VERSE

For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith – and this is not from
yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by
works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!