

# **YOUTH Devotions - July 12 - 16**

## **The book of Ephesians**

### **Day 1—Ephesians 1:3-10**

Is it amazing to you to know that God had you specifically in mind before He even created the world? God has a plan for everything, He is in control and has given us His Son to adopt us as His own. Sometimes we need to take some time to just relax, and let God take control of our lives. In today's society everyone wants to be in control, and it can be very difficult to let go of control in our lives and let God take over.

- Do you think you can let God take control of your life? Take a few minutes to pray for the ability to let go and trust in Him.
  
- List out a few times where you had to take control, and it did not turn out so good. Try and remember these instances the next time you have to have control of what is going on.

### **Day 2—parent night—Ephesians 1:11-14**

The day you believed in Christ you were included in the goal of further God's purpose. You became a Kingdom worker in that very second. Do you feel important enough to be included in God's plan like this? Do you feel like you have been furthering God's Kingdom or hindering it since you believed?

- Being a Kingdom Worker is not a fast and simple process. List out some ways that you could further God's Kingdom through your school, work place, or neighborhood.
  
- Pray with your parent that you can let Christ shine through you to become Kingdom Workers in these areas.

### **Day 3—Ephesians 2:1-10**

We were all once dead before we found Christ. I'm sure you can remember a time where you were living for yourself and yourself only, if not try and think now who you are truly living for. We have accepted Christ into our lives, but sometimes we still choose to live in the sins and transgressions that bogged us down before. We now have a life full of Christ, so we must live for Christ and not ourselves. Thankfully we have been saved by God's grace!

- We have been made alive in Christ, do you feel like this is true? If so, pray a prayer of rejoice and thankfulness. If not, then take a moment to reflect on the fact that God sent Christ for you personally, and pray for God to move inside of you.
- Take some time to list out some transgressions or sins from your past that you still struggle with, pray over this list for wisdom to conquer it.

### **Day 4—Ephesians 2:14-18**

In Christ Jesus we are all considered one. We all come from different background and different parts of life, yet we are all unified by Christ. Try and think of all the different kinds of people in the youth group; race, wealth, age, personality. Yet we are all joined together by Jesus to work as one body. Isn't it great how God can work through so many different people to further His purpose?

- List out some things that you think make you different than everybody else. Then look at the list and realize though you are different, the most important thing about you is your love for Christ, and that unifies you with all believers.
- Take some time to pray for vision and understanding of being unified with all believers.

### **Day 5—Ephesians 2:19-22**

The Bible tells us here that we have been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus as the chief cornerstone. What feelings do you have when you think that you are working upon a foundation built personally by Paul and Peter? Jesus' personal ministry set the foundation for which you live upon. What kind of feelings do you get then when you think about how you are building further on that same foundation? Many Christians of the future will be living and teaching upon the foundation that you leave!

- Take some time to think about your personal impact on the foundation of your community.
- Take a few minutes to pray about the foundation that you lay, and your future work to add to this foundation.