

Summary

The letter to the Ephesian church is about Christians...

being blessed to the max in Christ (study 1)

because they have been given a gift that silences all boasting (study 2).

They have a forgiveness that transcends all cultural barriers (studies 3&4)

and they exist as one body under one head who is Christ (study 5).

As blessed people of God they will not conform to false desires but live truly under Christ's will (study 6),

and prepare to battle the spiritual forces (study 7).

1. Wives

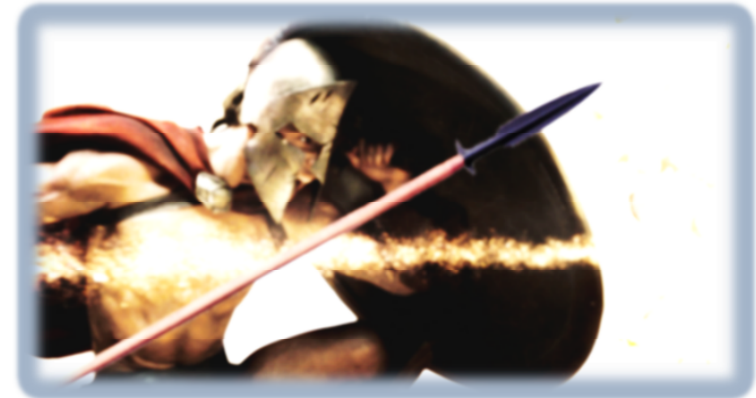
2. Husbands

3. Getting Practical

4. Some advice

Ephesians study 7

Prepare for Battle!



Discuss

Would you expect life to ...

... when you started studying at Monash

... when you apply for a job after graduating

... when you got / if you get married

... when you gave / if you give your life to Jesus

	get easier	stay the same	get harder
...			
...			
...			
...			

Read Ephesians 5:21–6:9.

Break into smaller groups or pairs and choose one area to explore and discuss.
(Husbands & wives, or parents & children, or masters & slaves.)

Look at what the passage says and fill in your relevant section in the table below.

	How are we to act?	What is our motivation?
Wives	5:22	5:23-24
Husbands	5:25	5:25-33
Children	6:1-2	6:3
Fathers	6:4	
Slaves	6:5-7	6:7-8
Masters	6:9a	6:9b

Summarise: What is the effect of being a follower of Jesus on the relationships we have?

Why is it important to have the right motivations for our behaviour towards others?

Read Ephesians 6:10–24.

Paul uses the language of wars and battles to describe the Christian's life. Who are the two opposing sides in this war?

What kind of equipment did God give his people to fight this war? What do they symbolise?

- belt of _____
- breastplate of _____
- feet fitted with _____
- shield of _____
- helmet of _____
- sword of _____ = _____

What does Paul mean when he says to put on these things?

How will our lives change when we understand that we were fighting a spiritual war? How will it affect...

- a. our relationships?
- b. our priorities?