

Small Groups

Bethel Group

Sundays 4:30 p.m. Contact: David Minard 517.756.8000

Couples Group

TBA
Contact: Brandon Carpenter
989.277.5988
Tyson Franks
517.617.8185

Bronson Group A

Thursdays 3:00 p.m. Contact: Dale and Sally Davis 517.617.4550

Coming Soon:

TBA Men's small group Women's small group

**Please note the new day

Coldwater Group

**Thursdays 7:00 p.m. Contact: Scott Carpenter 517.617.5438

East Gilead Group

Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Contact: Greg Maertin 419.345.4022

Bronson Group B

Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Contact: Solano deAraujo 517.369.2198

Hispanic Group

Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. Contact: Jose Albarron 517.677.3289

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Small Group Discussion Guide (Week of October 6, 2019)

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer. Ask God to bless your time and direct your discussion as we begin the study of the book of Ephesians.

I. This fall, the church will be studying Paul's letter to the church of Ephesus. Look up Ephesus on a map. Where is it located in the Middle East? What country is there today? Read <u>Ephesians 1:1-2</u>. Who are the saints and in what sense are they considered faithful? Are we saints as well? Explain your answer. Are you faithful to God?

Paul's salutation includes wishes for God's grace and peace to be ours. What exactly is grace? Wht does it produce for us? Is personal peace possible without grace? Explain.

- II. Today let's look at how the gospel arrived at Ephesus. Read <u>Acts 19:1-7</u>. What do you think occurred there? Who's disciples were these? Why were they rebaptized? What happened next? (Note <u>Acts 11:15-18</u>).
- III. Read <u>Acts 19:8-10</u>. How long did Paul preach to the Jews at Ephesus? What did he do next and for how long? What kind of impact did his preaching have?

Read Acts 19:11-20. Recap what happened here. In what ways do people mimic Christians today? Notice the result of their failure in verses 17-20. What kinds of evil deeds and even demonic activities do people need to repent of today? Any examples?

IV. Finish by reading Acts 19:23 - 20:1. Summarize what happened. What kind of opposition and even persecution do Christians face today? Do we see this in America? Any examples?

*Summary: Paul spent over two years preaching in Ephesus. He left because of social uprising against his ministry. But, he left an established church and later wrote them a letter, the letter of Ephesians. We'll start reading his letter next time. Close your group with prayer.

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