



Sunday School Study Plan for May 2025

with Mr. Mackie Hill

Four Weeks (May 4, 11, 18, and 25)

Topic: "Living Rich in Christ: Embracing Our True Identity in Ephesians"

Month's Focus:

"As Christians, we are rich beyond measure in Jesus Christ, yet often live as spiritual paupers or beggars."

Week 1: A Letter Paul Wrote to the Church He Had Started in Ephesus

Background Reading: Ephesians 1:1–23

Guiding Questions:

1. Where was Paul when he wrote the Letter to the Church in Ephesus?
2. Name some of the contents of the Christian's Heavenly Bank Accounts.
3. What was God's plan for us?
4. How did God purchase our freedom?
5. **Dig Deeper Question:** How does knowing about our "Heavenly Bank Accounts" change the way we live each day, especially when facing trials?

Week 2: Old Condition: Dead to God; New Condition: Alive to God

Background Reading: Ephesians 2:1–10; Ephesians 3

Guiding Questions:

1. To what was your old condition?
2. What is our new condition?
3. What is God's select plan for the Gentiles?
4. What is Paul's prayer of realization?
5. **Dig Deeper Question:** What difference does it make to understand that salvation is a gift and not earned (Ephesians 2:8–9)? How should this understanding shape our attitudes toward others?

WEEKLY HOMEWORK

1. READ TEXT FOR THE WEEK
2. USE A STUDY APPROACH TO RE-READ TEXT FOR PERSONAL AND BIBLICAL CONNECTIONS
 - A. CONSIDER 3 INSIGHTS, 2 SIGNIFICANT VERSES, AND ONE KEY WORD FOR DISCUSSION
 - B. USE BIBLICAL COMMENTARIES ON TEXT TO GIVE CONTEXT OR BACKGROUND
 - C. REVIEW VARIED TRANSLATIONS TO COMPARE MEANINGS
3. CONNECT LESSONS TO SERMONS FROM PAST DECADES AND LAST SEVERAL MONTHS

[Please see next weeks' lessons on the next page.]

2 Timothy 2:15, KJV: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15**, NASB: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."



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Week 3: Get Excited About Unity: The Gifts

Background Reading: Ephesians 4:1–31

Guiding Questions:

1. What kind of life did Paul beg us to live?
2. What are the means for unity?
3. What is the purpose of God's gift?
4. How can we display a new nature?
5. **Dig Deeper Question:** Paul emphasizes unity in the body of Christ. What are some real-world barriers to unity in churches today, and how can we overcome them using the principles Paul teaches?

Week 4: Living as Children of Light: Putting on the Armor of God

Background Reading: Ephesians 5:1–9; Ephesians 6:10–18

Guiding Questions:

1. How can we live as children of light?
2. Why should we be filled with the Holy Spirit?
3. What is the armor of God? Explain each piece of this armor.
4. **Dig Deeper Question:** Which piece of the armor of God do you find most challenging to "put on" daily, and why? How can we encourage one another in wearing the full armor?

2 Timothy 2:15, KJV: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15**, NASB: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."