

RESURRECTING CHURCH: THE GREATER STORY

Life Group Questions | Sunday, April 25, 2021

Do you have a favorite childhood story? What's the best movie or tv show you saw recently? What did you like about the story line?

Read Ephesians 1:1-14. What words or phrases capture you in this passage? Take some time to talk about these words as a group. What do they mean? What do you think the apostle Paul seeking to communicate?

Ephesians is inviting us into a greater story that gives us a new perspective on reality. Paul wants us to look at things from a heavenly perspective. What does it mean to have a heavenly perspective?

Look back at the passage. How many times is Jesus referenced? What can we learn about Jesus from this text?

There is nothing like a great story. Brain science reveals that great stories change the way we think and live. Research shows stories are much more effective at changing thinking and behavior than just being told to think and live differently. How might understanding Ephesians as an invitation into a greater story shape the way you engage the text?

Do you see yourself as part of God's story? How so or why not?

Pray together. Close by reading Ephesians 1:11-14 in The Message version:

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This down payment from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.