

# **Ephesians Series – Autumn 2020 Including Life**

## **Group Leaders Brief**

Taken from the book **Ephesians: How Jesus creates a New People in a New World** by Brad Wilson

### **'How Jesus creates a new people in a new world'**

A major series preaching through this book, with each message formed of three parts:

- Head – Renewal of our minds by the knowledge of God
- Heart – Restoration of our souls by the application of this truth
- Hands – Transformation of our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit

There are eight parts (weeks) each has a reading(s) a brief synopsis and some suggested questions.

Please note that the first three parts all have two sections, the remaining parts one section each.

Suggested questions for life groups have been **highlighted**.

### **Part 7 - A relational church (5:15-6:9)**

#### ***Head***

Genesis 3 is about the breaking of the world through sin, death and evil and the breakdown of every facet of human relationship. Producing anxiety, stress abuse and pain. Ephesians is about a world reshaped by the power of the resurrection and a people born out of the unending grace of Jesus. If every human relationship was made alive in Christ (Eph 2: 5), we are not only reconciled to God, but also have been made reconcilers to one another.

**What do we learn about in this passage about Jesus, His character, actions and desires?  
How does the church submit to Christ and how does that reflect in our relationships with each other?**

**How do our relationships tell the story of the gospel and reflect the character of Jesus?**

#### ***Heart***

Paul says “submit to each other out of reverence for Christ” (v21) Submit means to to yield and consider with great weight. Consider with great weight, your neighbour, their life, their passions, their needs, their desires.

Paul takes it further; he says there is a direct correlation between how much time we spend listening and watching Jesus and how we treat one another.

**How have you felt disrespected, disregarded, provoked, dishonoured, ignored, or threatened by others? How does the gospel of Jesus bring life to those wounds?**

#### ***Hands***

**How would your neighbourhood be transformed if it had a regular encounter with a community that “submitted one to another out of reverence to Jesus”?**

**What area(s) of your life do you sense the Holy Spirit asking you to submit to Jesus as you submit to others in your life? What are the hardest areas of life to submit to Jesus?**