

GROWING – Relationally 24th May 2020 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

Connect:

Journey Through Ephesians... Relationships!	
Relationship to God (in 'Christ') 1–3 "Anointed Saviour"	Relationship to others (in 'the Lord') 4–6 "Supreme Authority"
His Purpose & Power	Our Walk and Warfare
Salvation worked in	Salvation worked out
Doctrine	Duty
What we are saved by	What we are saved for
Adoration	Application
Our release	Our response
Forgiveness	Holiness
Justification	Sanctification
Divine Sovereignty	Human Responsibility
Inside the Church	Outside the church

- The first 3 chapters are about that upward relationship with God. Chapters 4-6 see a significant shift as it starts to talk about relationships to others (in the Lord).
1. Why does Paul use the title "Christ" more in the first 3 chapters of Ephesians, then "Lord" in the second 3?
 2. Can you have healthy biblical relationships with other people when you don't understand Gods Lordship and supreme authority?

Engage:

3. Are you in a strong place relationally?
4. Is your relationship with God intact?

5. Is your relationship with God strong and real? Is it alive and growing?
6. Are your relationships with others badly damaged?
7. Do you want to see your relationships with others increase?

Framework:

8. What damages relationships?
 - Mistakes
 - Mischief
 - 'MY' needs
9. Is there a way back from a damaged relationship?
10. Can you grow damaged relationships back into health? If yes, then how?

“Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been **called by God.”**

Ephesians 4:1 NLT

11. Read Colossians 1:10
12. What does it mean to be 'worthy'?

“Calling is relationally RELEASED, or RESTRAINED.”

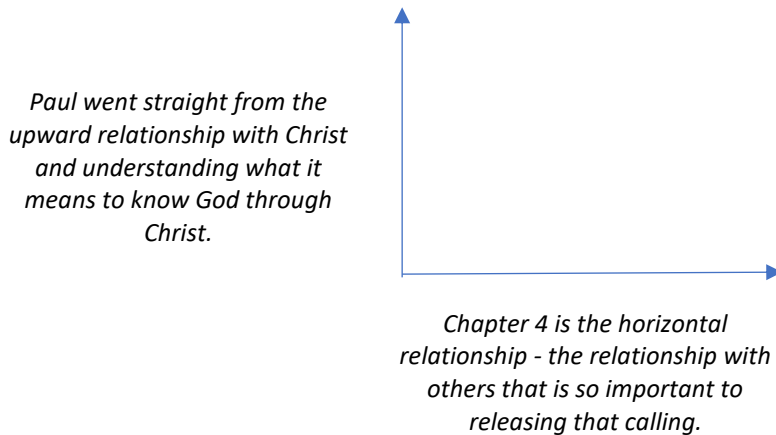
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13. Do you recognise the calling of God?
 - You are called for PURPOSE! Just like the apostle Paul was. Our calling is equal! Paul is making this point in Ephesians 4:1
14. Are you leading a life worthy of your calling?
 - **First aspect of “calling”** – The invitation from God Himself through Christ to know Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.
 - **Second aspect of “calling”** – More personal. God is shouting out your name. The calling you experience is completely defined by God and unique to each one of us. But it's within the context of His church, kingdom and purpose.

“Calling isn't just a thought process. Calling to be outworked, is highly relational.”

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15. How can you grow relationally?
16. Read and discuss Ephesians 4:2-3



That's the promise: Get your relationships working well and your calling will mature and grow.

17. Do you make allowances for the people you are in relationship with?
18. Why is unity important and what does it enable?

“Unity in action builds others.”

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19. Read and discuss Ephesians 4:4-6
20. Why is relational one-ness important?
21. God's kingdom is all about one-ness – God Himself is a trinitarian God; The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit (3 in 1) and yet they're individual at the same time.
22. Discuss why one-ness is so important in the Kingdom.
 - Unity is a Spiritual issue – Read Jude 1:19
 - God commands the Blessing in Unity – Read Psalm 133:1-3
 - Jesus' Prayer for Unity – Read John 17:11 & 23
23. Are you working at your unity? Or are you letting it go too easily?
- 24. Steps to Growing Relationally Strong – Be willing too:**
 - **Reset:** Mistakes, Mischief, 'MY' needs
 - **Relax:** Be Humble, Gentle, Patient, Make allowance
 - **Renew:** Choices that build one another up

“Healthy relationship restoration will bring blessing to your life.”

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Prayer:

Father God, thank you that you are a God who wants to have a relationship with me, that you're a God who loves me and created me out of That love. Father I pray that you will help me with my struggling relationships, help me to forgive and let go of the pain that others have inflicted upon me. Please soften my heart, help my heart to understand your love and grace. You gave me grace, so I need to give it to others. Please give me the strength to forgive and the wisdom to take the right steps in reconciliation. Please reveal me to myself and help me identify where I may be going wrong. If there is something that I have done or am doing that causes strain on my relationships, please help me to humble my heart, identify my shortcomings and challenge myself to grow in unity with those around me. In Jesus Name Amen

Extra Resources:

[Click here to join a Life Group](#)

[Click here to watch The U.K Blessing](#)

