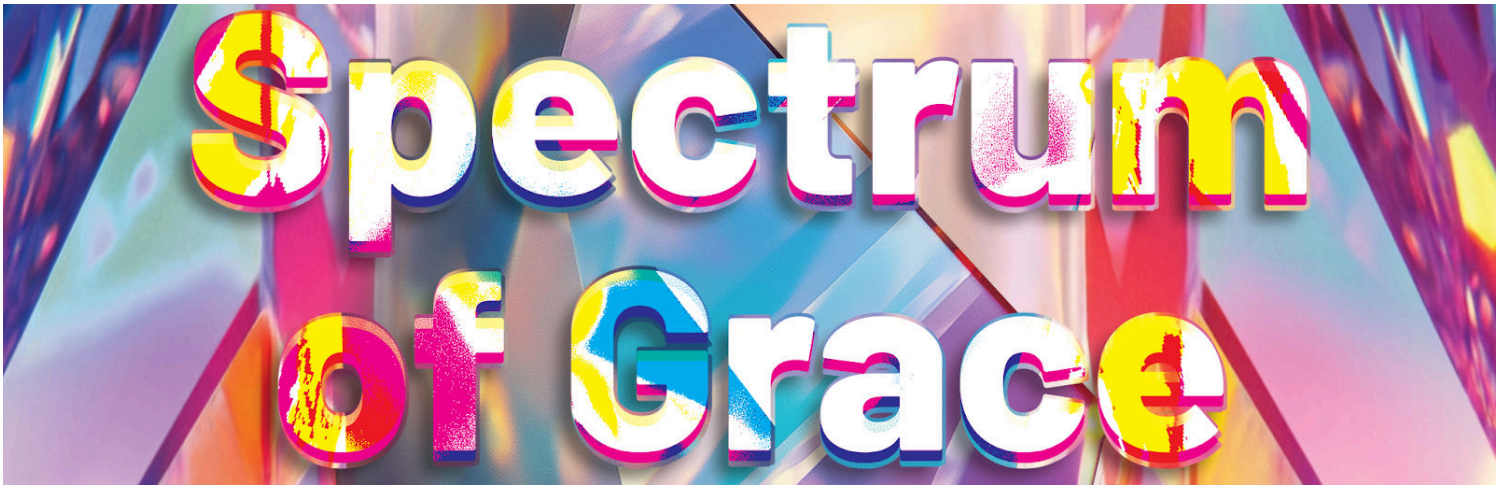


Week of June 29, 2025 - The Forgotten Future

Small Group Lesson 3

Connect

Think about a time you were promised something you had always wanted, but it was to be given later in the future (e.g., a trip, a gift, or an event). How did you feel while you were waiting for it to happen? Was it hard? Did you forget or doubt it would even happen?

Verses - Ephesians 1:11-14 (NKJV)

Read aloud:

11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. 13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. In v.11, Paul says we obtained an inheritance, being "predestined…" How does knowing that God has a clear purpose and plan for working *what*? How does that provide comfort in or challenge our current circumstances?

2. The phrase "to the praise of His glory" appears multiple times here. What does it mean for believers to live "to the praise of His glory," and how does our past, present, and future all contribute to this purpose?

3. V.14 mentions the "redemption of the purchased possession." Considering that Christ "purchased" us with His blood (see Eph. 1:7), what does it mean that we are God's "possession," and how should this influence how we live?

Share

Discuss 1:

P. Jesse says, "Church is not a service, the church is a group of people who worship the Lord." How does actively participating in a small group or ministry (rather than just "sitting there") help us avoid *spiritual* boredom and drifting off?

Discuss 2:

P. Jesse concludes by saying the church is like "gemstones" that "reflect the light of Christ onto each other" and then "shines outside into the world." What are some ways you, your SG, or ministry can be "glory reflectors" now?

Minister to one another through PRAYER sharing specific prayer requests.