

MYSTERY

LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

ADOPTION, Ephesians 1:3–10—October 7, 2018

We who believe have been adopted into the family of God through the shed blood of Christ who unites all things in Him.

CONNECT

1. How have you experienced adoption? Share a few stories with your group.

CELEBRATE

2. Who is doing all the work in Ephesians 1:3–10? Who is receiving the benefit of the work? Does this clash or compliment what you've believed?
3. What does it mean to be adopted into God's family? Read Galatians 3:25-29 and 4:4-7.
4. When did God decide to adopt you into His family based on this passage? How long has God wanted you to be part of His family?
5. What is the "mystery of God"? Read Ephesians 1:9–10, 3:6 & 5:31–33. What does this mystery involve? Why does the "mystery of God" matter to us today?
6. According to Ephesians 1:7–8, how do people become holy and blameless? Are you living as if this is true of you?
7. God's vision for restoration and unity infuses this passage. How do you see this passion of God emerging in Scripture?
8. What emotions come to mind when you hear the words "lavish" and "riches"? How do those ideas and concepts help you appreciate redemption (Ephesians 1:7–8)? Are you appropriately awed?

CONTRIBUTE

9. God's plan is to unite all things in Christ (Ephesians 1:9–10).
 - a. How have you seen Christ do this in the past (in your life, in the Church, etc.).
 - b. How do you see Christ currently doing this?
 - c. How are you using the opportunities around you to participate in God's plan for unity?
10. Read Revelation 7:9–11.
 - a. How is this a picture of what true unity looks like?
 - b. Who and what is at the center? Who is this ultimately about and to what end?
 - c. How does God want to practically use you in the pursuit of this now?

PRAY

This section of Ephesians is often called a "doxology" which means it was written specifically to glorify God for all that He has done. Read through this passage and highlight everything it says that God has done for us and every time it mentions God's glory. Which one means the most to you? Tell God this in your prayer time.