

## **Ephesians 1 (NAS95 version)**

“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Grace”--Strong's #5485 “...of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ...” (from Online Bible Greek Lexicon)

ACTIVITY: Cardstock (pre-printed, or children can write if they are old enough) and 2 magnets per child. Directions:

Give each child a card that has CHRIST at one end. Using two magnets, have them put one magnet on the underside of the card to draw the other magnet on top invisibly toward CHRIST.

“Peace”--Strong's #1515 “...the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is...” (from Online Bible Greek Lexicon)

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

ACTIVITY: Have them color the heart...



In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

ACTIVITY: Have them color "Inside the letters"--all things are gathered in One.

# CHRIST

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

ACTIVITY: Show the order: Hope (or Trust) and THEN Be (or Bee...) Directions:

Tell a student that we want the ceiling fan to be on. (Most likely, he/she will pull the cord or flip a switch.) We are trusting in something outside ourselves to make the ceiling fan work. If we don't do that, it would be like us manually pushing the blades around. First, we trust Him, and then we be to the praise of His glory.

1st--  
HOPE and TRUST



THEN--  
Be to the praise of  
His glory

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

"Seal"--Strong's 4972 "...to stamp (with a signet or private mark) for security or preservation...to keep secret..." (from Online Bible Strong's)

SNACK: Bring something sealed to show that it's kept preserved and protected from contamination or tampering. In a sense, it's secret--even though we know from the labeling what is in the container, it's still unseen and untasted. Because Christ is the one who has set His seal upon us, we are safe.

For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which *exists* among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.

ACTIVITY: Have them draw a heart with open eyes...

*These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."