

THE CHURCH

This book belongs to:



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What is Church and Why Should I Care?

MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:22-23



1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, “I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand,” that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, “I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,” would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?

But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, “I don’t need you.” The head can’t say to the feet, “I don’t need you.”

In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.

All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it. Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church:

first are apostles,
second are prophets,
third are teachers,
then those who do miracles,
those who have the gift of healing,
those who can help others,
those who have the gift of leadership,
those who speak in unknown languages.

Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.

But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all.



ACTS 2:42-47

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.



MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:22-23

God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.



Day 1



READ

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

- From reading this passage, what is the Body of Christ?
- What special gifts or talents has the Lord given you as a part of the Body of Christ?
- Write down a few specific ways you can use those talents and gifts to serve others.



MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:22-23

Write down the weekly memory verse on a sticky note. When you are done, practice saying it out loud a few times. Then, place the sticky note somewhere you will look at often—a mirror in your room, on your phone case, or on the back of your door in your room.



Day 2

READ

ACTS 2:42-47

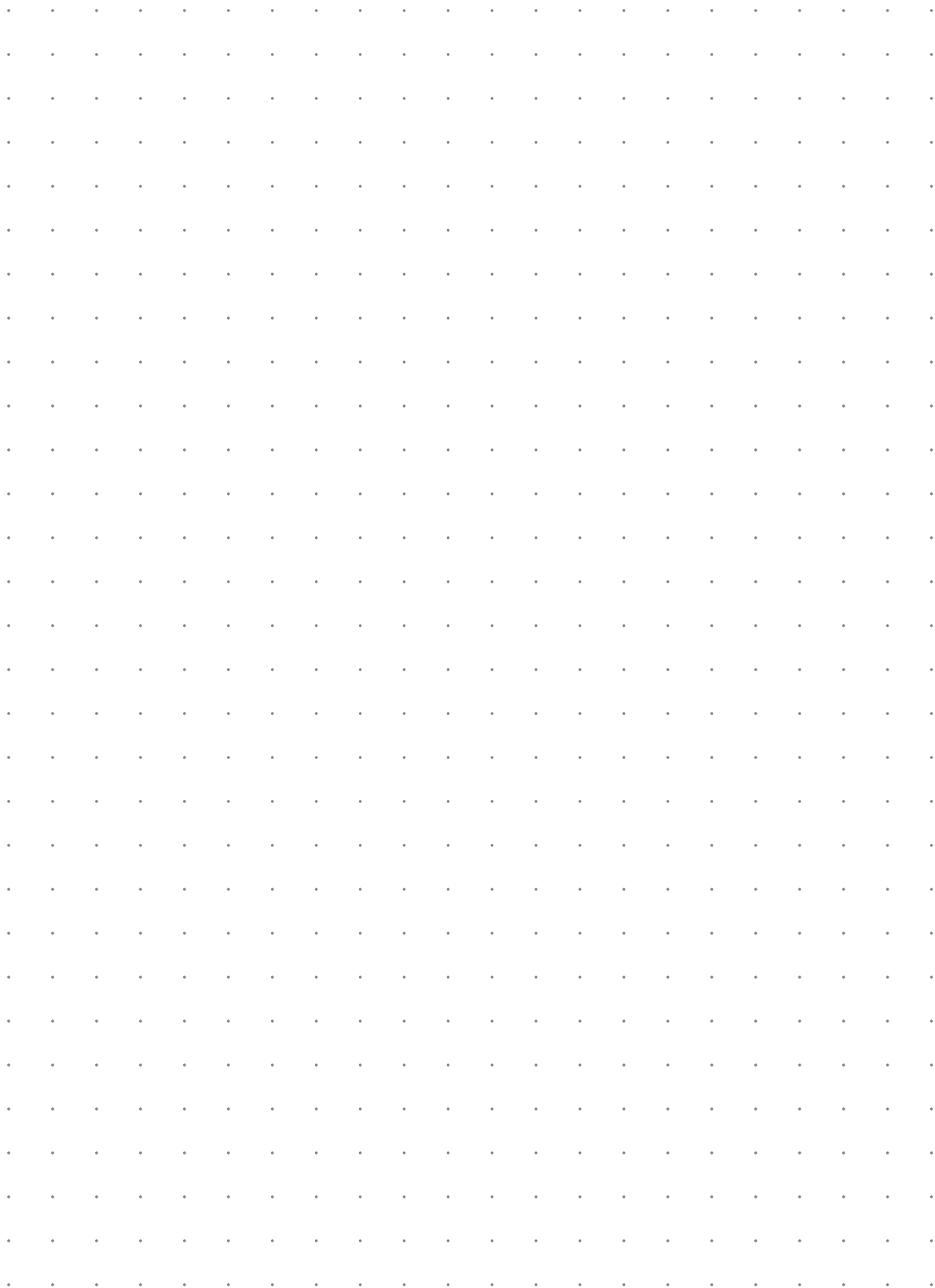
- What did the believers devote themselves to?
- Why did the early Christians love gathering together, and how did God bless them because of it?

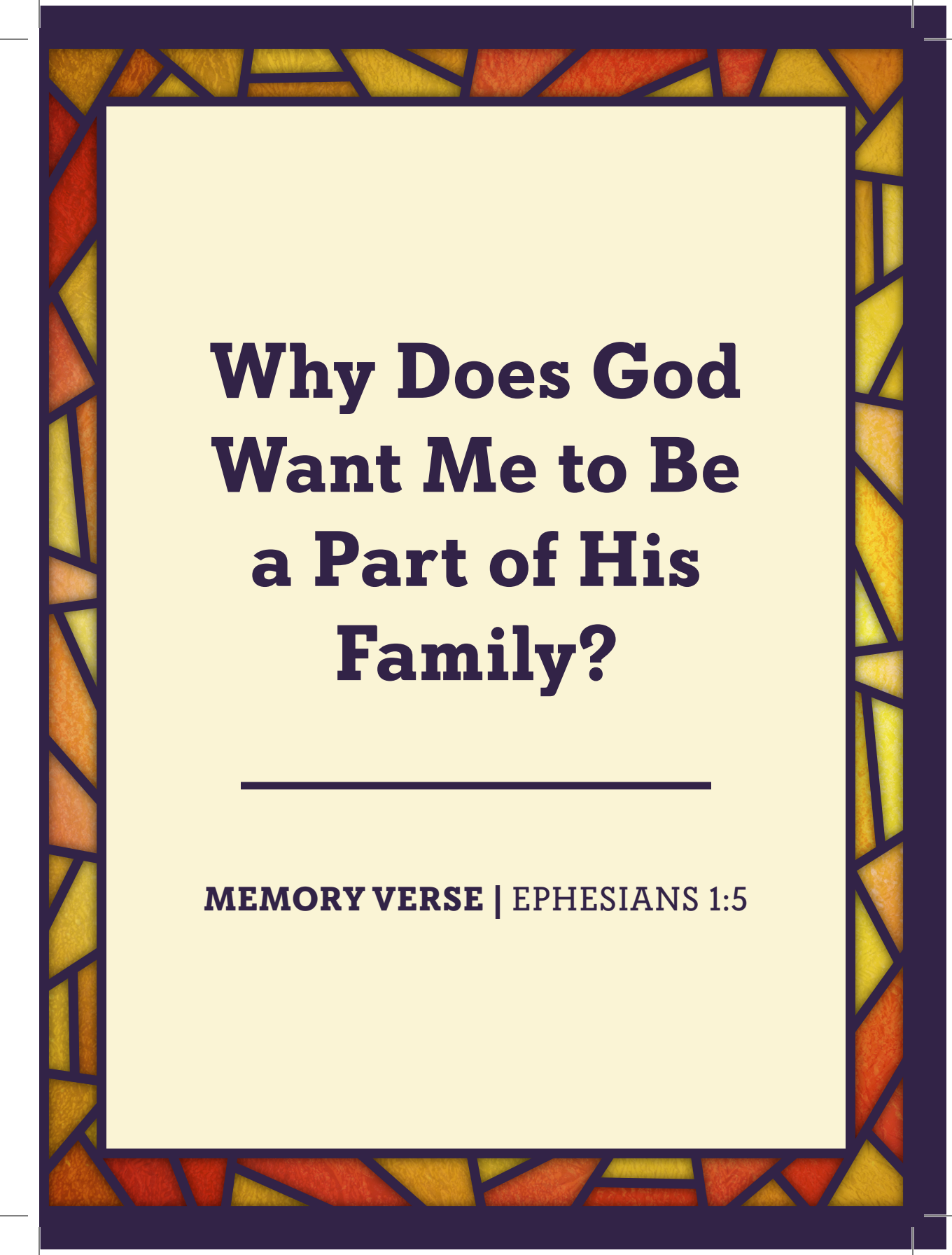


MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:22-23

Write down the weekly memory verse three times.

NOTES



A decorative border with a stained glass pattern in shades of yellow, orange, and red, set against a dark blue background.

Why Does God Want Me to Be a Part of His Family?

MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:5




GALATIANS 3:27-4:7



And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. And that's the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles of this world.

But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father." Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.





EPHESIANS 2:19-22

So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.



MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:5

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.



Day 1



READ **GALATIANS 3:27-4:7**

- What does it mean to be God's child?
- Is it ever hard for you to believe that you really belong to God?
- How does it make you feel to know that you are his child?



MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:5

Write out the entire verse. Now, write down the first letter of every word on a sticky note. Every time you pass the sticky note, try to remember the word that each letter stands for.



Day 2



READ **EPHESIANS 2:17-22**

(The word “Gentiles” referred to anyone that was not Jewish. This would have included you.)

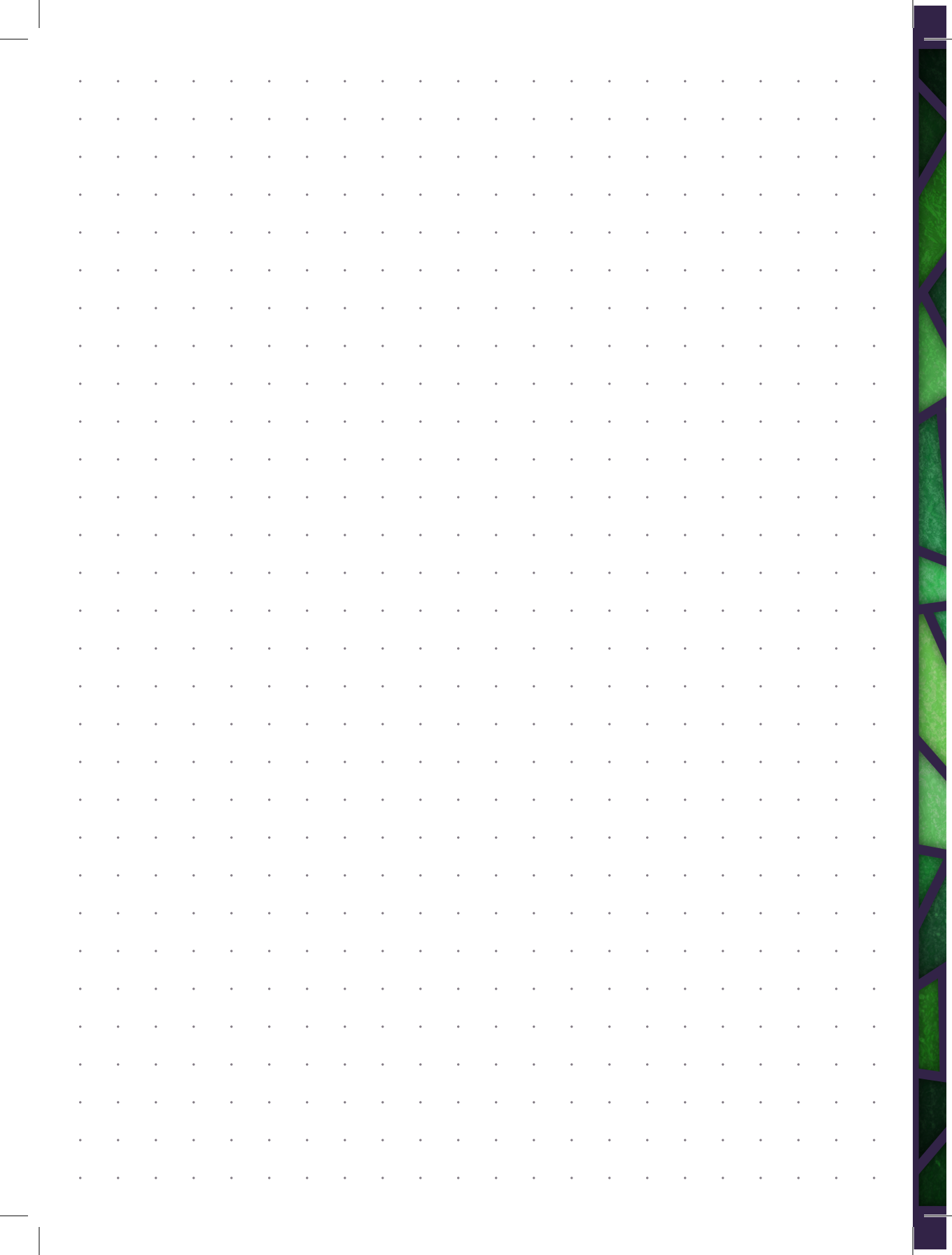
- Because of Christ, we have been welcomed into God’s family. How do you feel knowing that you have a place where you are wanted and welcomed?
- How should we live knowing that Christ’s dwelling place is now in us?



MEMORY VERSE | EPHESIANS 1:5

How many words can you remember from the letters you wrote down on the sticky note? Try writing the verse out completely a few more times or read the verse out loud a few more times. Then, see how many words you can remember from the letters after you have practiced again.

NOTES



Why Can't I Just Do Things My Way?

MEMORY VERSE | HEBREWS 13:17




EPHESIANS 6:1-9

Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. “Honor your father and mother.” This is the first commandment with a promise: If you honor your father and mother, “things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth.”

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free.

Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don’t threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.





1 TIMOTHY 4:6-13

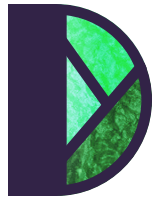
If you explain these things to the brothers and sisters, Timothy, you will be a worthy servant of Christ Jesus, one who is nourished by the message of faith and the good teaching you have followed. Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, train yourself to be godly. "Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come." This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it. This is why we work hard and continue to struggle, for our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people and particularly of all believers.

Teach these things and insist that everyone learn them. Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity. Until I get there, focus on reading the Scriptures to the church, encouraging the believers, and teaching them.



MEMORY VERSE | HEBREWS 13:17

Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.

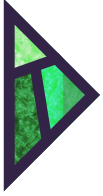


Day 1



READ **EPHESIANS 6:1-9**

- What command has God given us that comes with a promise?
- How should fathers and masters treat those they are in charge of?
- Why does God want you to be obedient to your parents?



MEMORY VERSE | HEBREWS 13:17

Write down the memory verse in a creative way below.



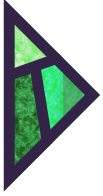
Day 2



READ

1 TIMOTHY 4:6-13

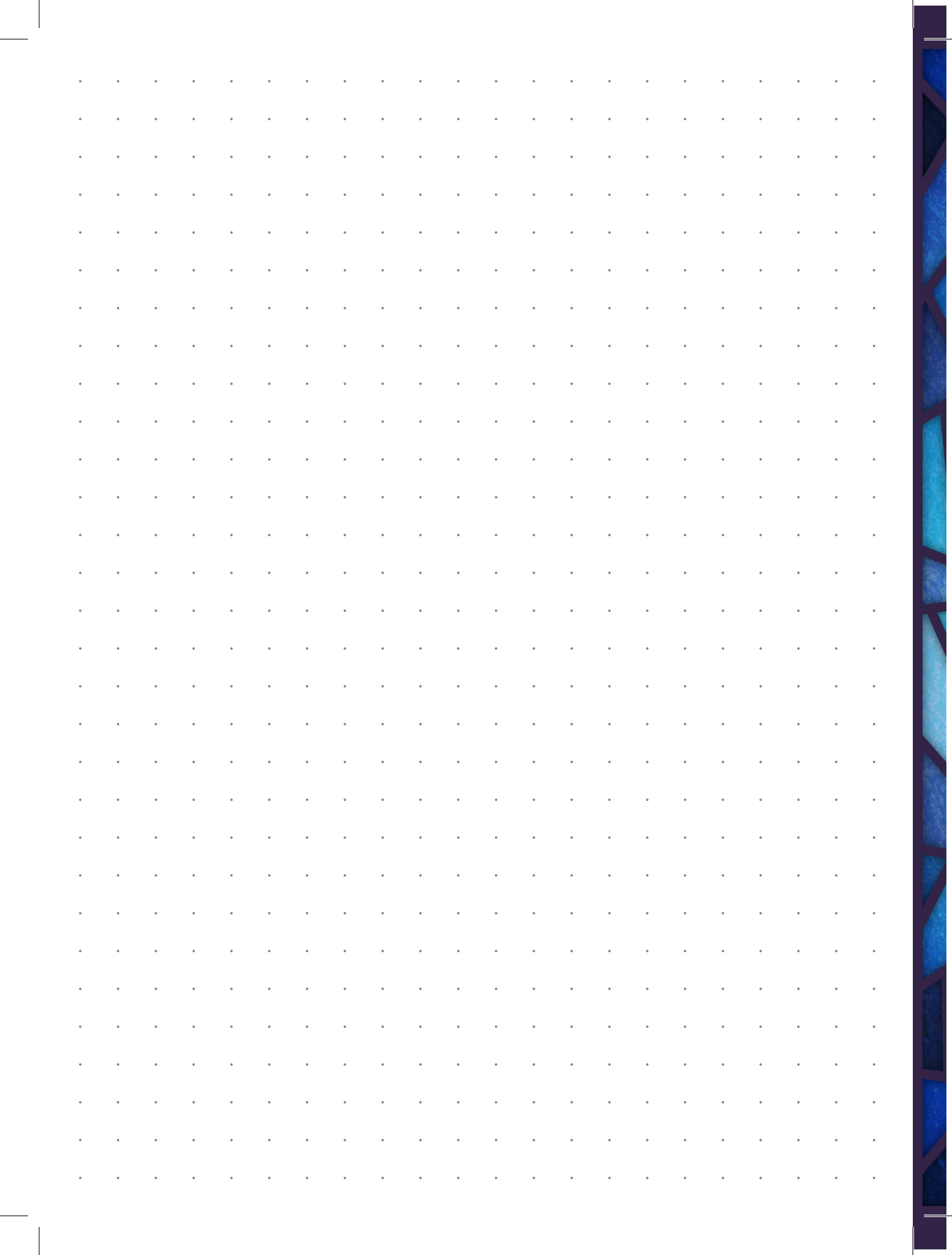
- At the very end of the passage, what are three things Timothy is instructed to focus on as the leader over the people?
- How have you had leaders in your own life do these things for you?



MEMORY VERSE | HEBREWS 13:17

As you try to commit the verse to memory this week, read it out loud a few times to a friend, sibling, or parent.

NOTES



Why Can't Life Just Be About Me?

MEMORY VERSE | PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4



PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Though he was God,
he did not think of equality with God
as something to cling to.
Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;
he took the humble position of a slave
and was born as a human being.
When he appeared in human form,
he humbled himself in obedience to God
and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor
and gave him the name above all other names,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.



MATTHEW 25:31-46



"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’

“Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’

“Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. For I was hungry, and you didn’t feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn’t give me a drink. I was a stranger, and you didn’t invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn’t give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

“Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?’

“And he will answer, ‘I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.’

“And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life.”



MEMORY VERSE | PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.



Day 1



READ

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

- Describe what Christ's attitude would be like according to these verses.

- How can it be difficult for you to have an attitude like Christ?



MEMORY VERSE | PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Copy the memory verse for the week. Can you come up with an active way to memorize this verse? For example: write a song or rap, come up with hand motions, etc.



Day 2



READ

MATTHEW 20:25-28

- God's Kingdom is often upside-down compared to the world. How do these verses tell believers that they should live differently?

- What would it look like for you to serve others in your life?



MEMORY VERSE | PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Fill in the blank.

³Don't be _____; don't try to _____.

Be _____, thinking of others as better than _____. ⁴Don't look out only for your _____, but take an interest in _____, too.

NOTES

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