Ephesians 1:5-6

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Do you (or does someone you know) have a pet that has forgotten that it's an animal? What are some ways it act like a human?
- If you're a Jesus-follower, your identity is found "in Christ." What's the difference between being "in Christ" and "with Christ"? (Remember the illustration of the motorcycle vs. the roller coaster.)

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- Remember what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to follow up on this week?
- Review your Sermon Notes together. What is one thing that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- Read this week's passage together. In his message, Pastor Jason reminded us that when God sees us He sees Jesus in two specific ways: adoption and acceptance.

Two Ways God Sees Us When He Looks At Jesus:

- 1. In Christ, we are longer orphans, we are ADOPTED (Ephesians 1:5)
 - Do you have someone in your group that has been adopted, adopted a child, or is involved in foster care? If they are comfortable sharing, ask them to talk about what this truth means to them.
 - Adoption gives you the same privileges as Jesus.
 - · What are some of the privileges of being part of God's family that you are most thankful for?
 - · Adoption gives you a personal Father.
 - Jesus calls God, "Abba" ("Daddy"), and Romans 8:15 says we can too. How does this change the way you picture God today?
 - Adoption gives you the promise of eternal love.
 - · How does it impact you to realize that you can never out-sin God's love?

2. In Christ, we are no longer outsiders, we are ACCEPTED (Ephesians 1:6)

- Talk about a time in your life when you felt like you were an outsider you were left out, isolated, or marginalized. How did you respond?
- If you're a Christian, you've been saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9). How does that same grace change the way you daily live now that you are saved? For instance:
 - How does grace impact the way you respond to sin in your life?
 - How does grace change the way you interact with your family or friends?
 - How does grace inform the way you deal with discouragement, frustration, or things out of your control?

Who/what have you allowed to define you?
Which of these two truths is most meaningful to you today?
Who is someone that needs to hear about what you learned this week?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

• Pray that you and your group will live the way God sees - just like He sees His Son.

