**Paul’s Letter to the Church in Ephesus**

**An Introduction / Ephesians 1:1-3 / Part II**

**Intro:** In the first three verses of chapter 1 we learn of **– *the people, a prayer, and praise.***

1. **People –**
   1. *Who wrote the letter***?** The ApostlePaul

* 1. *Who is the letter written to***?** The Christians at Ephesus
* There’s a third *very important person* that we need to be aware of as we start this study of Ephesians. *That third person is you – and how this book can impact your life*.

1. **The Prayer:**

“*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*”

1. The Greek word for “grace” is *charis*,and we get our English word “charm” from that.

* The significant thing about grace is not that you and I say grace to God, but God says, “*Grace*” to us.

In simplest terms – Grace is God’s undeserved gift.

“*Grace is all of God’s power and all of God’s love and all of God’s wonder available to you for free*.” Ray Steadman

1. The Greek word for “peace” is *eirene*.
2. **Praise –** *Paul’s praise for God’s great blessings*

* Can you, will you ask Him to help you say and embrace, “*Look at what God has done for me***!**”

*He says that we’ve been blessed in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus*. What does that mean “*in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus*”**?** What is the heavenly realm**?**

* God already looks at you as holy. God already looks at you as seated with Christ. The inheritance that you have in Christ is already yours. And that inheritance is in the last phrase of **Ephesians 1:3**, “*He’s given us every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus*.”

**Application: Last week –** Read Ephesians in one sitting**.**

**This week** – Read Ephesians chapters 1 and 2. As you do, replace all of the personal pronouns **(**I, you, he, she, it, we, they, me, him, her, us, and them**)** with your name, so that you can hear what He thinks of you and what He’s done for you.