

Made For More Sermon Series

Week One (4/11/21): Made for More

**If you are a newly formed group or have new participants, see p. 2*

Scripture Text: Ephesians 1

Paul discusses in depth the spiritual blessings we've received with an eye to our past (chosen & adopted), our present (redeemed & included), and our future (secured & guaranteed). And then he prays over all believers to know more of Jesus and His power. As we allow Jesus to grow larger and fill more of our lives, we will see His power change the world.

Sermon Points:

Key Shift: More Effort → More Jesus

1. Jesus has done more for you than you could ever hope
2. Jesus will do more through you than you could ever imagine

Discussion Question Options:

- We're surrounded by consumer culture. Everyone, from sports teams, to work, to school, to even church wants more and more from you. Tell a story of the last time you've felt this pressure? What seem to be the greatest sources of that for you?
- The very title of this series, "Made for More," might invoke some particular feelings in us. Why do we tend to associate "more" with "effort?" If you could measure your current "effort output" on a scale of 1-100 with 100 being totally maxed out, what number would you give your current pace?
- Read Paul's prayer in vv. 15-23. It's incredible how much "more" God has given us. What are the things Paul really wants us to know and make part of our lives?
- Why would God, through Jesus, provide so much power for us today? Describe a time when you experienced the power of Jesus working in you in a profound way.
- If we were all rooted in More Jesus rather than More of our own effort, what do you imagine might be the impact 5, 10, or 20 years down the road? Pray for one another, that you would begin to experience this power as you allow More Jesus in your lives.

Memory Verse:

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. *Ephesians 1:22-23*

If your group either a) is a newly formed discussion group for Made for More, or b) has new participants that have joined for this discussion, please be cognizant of the first time experience in a discussion group:

- Take the time to do some get-to-know-you conversation, whether that's ice-breaker questions or sharing briefly about yourself
- Try to avoid any potentially alienating talk about how your group has been together for years, or how well everyone previously knows each other etc.
- This is a great time to have a note on the door or even greet guests at the door so everyone feels a warm, hospitable welcome
- Bring the rest of the group in on providing that welcoming atmosphere. Message them ahead of time so they can be ready to welcome new guests.