

# Creeds 2 - Relationship

Week of 28th of April 2024

Leader: Opening prayer

## Read Ephesians 1 : 1 – 14

### Ref V3 to V6

Given that this passage appears to say that God has chosen us even before the foundation of the world to be pure and blameless in his sight,; why does man feel compelled to be so disobedient? Do you think God intended it this way as a test of some sort?

### Ref V7 – V10

We are all offered the gift of forgiveness of sins and redemption through the sacrifice that Christ endured for us. Do you think there are any circumstances where that gift might be withdrawn?

### Ref V13 – V14

We are promised the gift of the Holy Spirit if we believe in Christ, what does verse 14 mean in your opinion?

## Read John 15: 1 – 8

### Ref V1 to V2

The gardening analogy of pruning a plant to make it more productive is a familiar one. How is God pruning us in our lives?

### Ref V5 – V6

The passage indicates that we can only bear fruit if we are “one with Christ.” V6 appears to give a stark warning, Do you think this should be taken literally?

### Ref V7 to V8

We are promised that if we have faith we can ask whatever we want and it will be done. Why does so much prayer apparently go unanswered?

Is this just our perception and prayers are answered in a way we do not expect?

Leader: Closing Prayer



## Background

### Book of Ephesians

Paul is widely believed to have written this epistle. The target audience was the church he founded in Ephesus. Paul seems to have written the epistle from prison in Rome and sent it via his friend, Tychicus in around AD 62 -63.

### John's Gospel

John's book is not a biography; it's a theological argument. John wants to convince us that Jesus of Nazareth is God the Son. Then he wants to show us how that fact will change our lives in some amazing ways. It is by believing in Jesus Christ as the Son of God that we find life – real life, eternal life, a whole new kind of life!

Douglas Connelly – John, The Way To True Life.