



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

“The Seven God Verbs”

Preached by Daniel Grothe

August 24th, 2025

Summary

Have someone in your group read the following summary aloud.

In this sermon titled “The Seven God Verbs,” Pastor Daniel begins a series on the book of Ephesians. He explains that Ephesians is structured with chapters 1-3 focusing on what God has done for us in Christ, while chapters 4-6 address what we should do in response. The sermon specifically examines Ephesians 1:1-14, highlighting seven actions (verbs) that God has done for believers: God blessed us with every spiritual blessing, God chose us before the foundation of the world, God destined us for adoption as His children, God bestowed grace on us, God lavished grace on us through redemption and forgiveness, God made known to us the mystery of His will, and God gathered up all things in Christ. Pastor Daniel emphasizes that these truths reveal

God's abundant love and intentionality toward believers, countering feelings of rejection or insignificance.

Key Passage | Ephesians 1:3-10

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed** us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He **chose** us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love He **predestined** us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which He has **freely given** us in the One he loves. In him we have **redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to **bring unity** to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own

Heavenly Father,

as we gather to discuss Your incredible actions toward us, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to receive these truths deeply. Help us to

see beyond our circumstances to understand how You have blessed, chosen, and lavished Your love upon us. May this time together be more than just an intellectual exercise, but a transformative encounter where You reveal exactly what each person here needs to hear. Guide our conversation and help us to be honest with one another as we explore these powerful truths from Your Word. **Amen.**

Getting Going

Allow time for each member to answer the following questions before moving on.

If you could choose any superpower, what would it be and why?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. Which of the seven 'God verbs' resonates most with you personally right now, and why?
2. What does it mean to you that God has 'lavished' grace upon us rather than just giving us enough to get by?
3. In what areas of your life do you struggle to believe or accept these truths about what God has done for you?

4. The sermon mentioned that we often talk about small things while Paul focused on God. How can we shift our conversations to more meaningful, God-centered topics?
5. What practical steps can you take this week to live in light of these seven truths about what God has done for you?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your every day life

This week, choose one of the seven God verbs that you most need to embrace in your current season. Write it down somewhere you'll see it daily (phone wallpaper, mirror, dashboard, etc.). Each morning, spend 2-3 minutes meditating on this truth and asking God to help you live in light of it throughout the day. Notice how your perspective shifts when you consciously remember what God has done for you. At the end of the week, journal about any changes you've observed in your thoughts, emotions, or actions as a result of focusing on this truth.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

- God's actions toward us (blessing, choosing, destining, etc.) were intentional and established before the foundation of the world - not afterthoughts or reactions.
- We are not barely saved or barely loved - God has lavished His grace upon us abundantly.
- The mystery that has been revealed is that Jesus Christ is the answer and the consummation of all things.
- Our identity as chosen, blessed children of God should transform how we view ourselves and navigate life's challenges.
- We often focus on small, temporary concerns while Paul consistently directed attention to the magnificent truths about God and His work in Christ.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close you time in prayer, using the words below or your own.

Lord Jesus, we stand in awe of what You have done for us. Thank You for blessing us, choosing us, destining us for adoption, bestowing and lavishing Your grace upon us, making known Your mysteries, and gathering all things in Yourself. Forgive us for the times we've lived as though these truths weren't real or weren't enough. Help us to walk in the fullness of our identity as Your beloved

children this week. May we not merely understand these truths intellectually but experience them transforming our hearts, our relationships, and our daily choices. Let Your lavish love overflow from us to others as we go from here. We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus, who has done all these things for us.

Amen.