



# IDENTITY THEFT

— CAMOUFLAGED BY CULTURE —



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Leaders' Guide: I Am Wealthy

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## THE WIN

The win for this meeting is that group members would gain a deeper grasp of the incredible wealth they have in Christ and identify steps to share that wealth with others.

## SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

5-10  
minutes

Recall the main points from this week's message from Ephesians 1:11-19:

- I am wealthy because of my inheritance
- I am wealthy because of my Companion
- I am wealthy because of my knowledge

What did you learn from Sunday's message that you would like to share with the group?

3-5  
minutes

## WARM UP

Name some of the wealthiest people that you know. If you had the wealth that they have, how might that change your life?

## THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

20-25  
minutes

Begin the session by slowly re-reading **Ephesians 1:11-19**.

Leaders' note: We are reading one of the richest passages in the New Testament. In fact, in the original Greek, Ephesians 1:3-14 is one long sentence made up of 203 words! Paul simply cannot contain his joy and celebration when writing this and that is the way we should approach the passage as well as we study and discuss it.

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The passage states "in Him" that we have received an inheritance. Let's stop and reflect on this today.

Going back to last week, we recall the glorious truth that we have been redeemed. It would have been more than enough for God to save us and stop there.

- The Bible says we have sinned and fallen short of His glory (Romans 3:23)
- Before he redeemed us, we were enemies of God (Romans 5:10)
- With this in mind, why on earth would God give us an inheritance? (Discuss as a group)

**Read Galatians 4:4-7 as a group.**

- What was the purpose of our redemption as outlined in this passage?

Leader's Note: God did not just redeem us but he made us His son or daughter. And not only did He bring us into His family, he has made us heirs. We receive an inheritance because we are now sons or daughters of our King.

**Read Romans 8:16-17 as a group.**

- Who does this passage reveal that we are fellow heirs with?

Leader's Note: Paul reveals that we are not just any common heir...we are fellow heirs with Christ. This means that you're not getting the leftovers and you're not on the B-team. This is not a secondhand inheritance. If you are "in Christ" (Eph 1:11), you are going to share the same inheritance that Christ himself will receive. He will freely and willingly share everything he receives with us!

What type of inheritance will we receive? Although the Bible doesn't give great detail, he does give us clues.

**Read 1 Peter 1:3-4 as a group.**

- What are the characteristics of this inheritance that Peter describes?
- How is this inheritance superior to the wealth that the world promises?

One final question to consider: *what is God's inheritance?*

In Ephesians 1:18, Paul prays that we may know "what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints" (NASB).

Consider this: you are God's inheritance. This is the eternal God, who made the heavens and the earth and everything in it. He is sovereign over all of it and "works out everything according to the decision of His will (v.11). He has everything in heaven...except for one thing. He wants you.

- How does this seemingly impossible news make you feel about God?

Paul gives the reason for all of this in verse 12 and repeats it in verse 14. God gave us this wealth so that we would live to the "praise of His glory." This is true worship: living lives that sing the praises of His glory as an overflow of His goodness and mercy to us.

- How could you take one step this week towards living more fully to the praise of God's glory?
- Who can you share the news of your inheritance with this week?

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3-5  
minutes

## DIGGING DEEPER

As a group, read Paul's closing prayer in vv. 17-19 and ask group members to volunteer to pray these same things for the group.

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the perception of your mind may be enlightened so you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the glorious riches of His inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power to us who believe, according to the working of His vast strength."

3-5  
minutes

## CLOSING THOUGHT

Read Psalm 150 each morning during this week to get your heart prepared to live that day to the praise of His glory.

### Psalm 150

Hallelujah!  
Praise God in His sanctuary.  
Praise Him in His mighty heavens.  
Praise Him for His powerful acts;  
praise Him for His abundant greatness.

Praise Him with trumpet blast;  
praise Him with harp and lyre.  
Praise Him with tambourine and dance;  
praise Him with flute and strings.  
Praise Him with resounding cymbals;  
praise Him with clashing cymbals.

Let everything that breathes praise the LORD.  
Hallelujah!