

Get a Life!

*Ephesians*

A Taste  
Of  
Heaven

Lesson Six

# Get a Life!

Page 2 of 4, Lesson Six

## *Ephesians*

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Ephesians 4:1

### A Taste Of Heaven

**Lesson Goal:** To help students understand God's gift of His Holy Spirit to individual Christians.

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:11-14; II Corinthians 1:22;

Paul ends his long sentence rejoicing in the fact that God chose us, is working out His will on earth, blessed us with the good news of salvation and sent His Holy Spirit to us. We have something here that should make us very happy, as it did Paul.

We are told that when we believed, we were given a very special gift. God places His Holy Spirit in us as a guarantee of our eternal relationship with Him.\* Sometimes when a person wants to buy something, they place a deposit on it. This means that they are serious about buying it, and it is considered theirs from that point on. The store will not sell it to anyone else. When they are ready to finish the purchase, they pay the remainder of the amount of the original cost of the item and take it home with them.

It is like that in our salvation. God says, through Paul, that when we believe, in response to the good news that we can have salvation through Jesus, God makes a deposit. His Holy Spirit comes to live in us and will not leave us. When we die, or when Jesus returns to earth to take His children to Heaven, God knows us because His Holy Spirit is with us, and we are heirs to all of God's Kingdom.

Paul also speaks of God's Holy Spirit as a "seal." In that day, when a person chose to send a letter or package to someone else, they placed a seal on it. The seal was not to be broken by anyone other than the person to whom the parcel was addressed. The seal identified who had sent it and to whom it belonged. When God's Holy Spirit comes into our lives, He is proof that we are God's children, sealed...identified...as God's forever.

Maria and Cassidy were great friends. They consistently exchanged messages. Sometimes Maria's brother delivered notes to Cassidy because they were in the same class at school. Maria would put her initials on a piece of tape and seal it around the edge of the note. If the tape was broken when Cassidy got the note, she knew that someone had read the note. The message that her friend had sent her was not personal and private any longer.

People identify their possessions in many ways. Cattle are branded. Household goods are marked to identify them when stolen. We write our name in books to indicate ownership. We use passwords to protect our computers and keep others from taking our personal information. Computer chips identify pets.

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Page 3 of 4, Lesson Six

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God sends His Holy Spirit to be the seal that guarantees that we are His and that we will inherit all that is His. He guarantees that with His own power. No one can change that...not even Satan himself.

Let's look at another thing this means. The Message translation of Scripture says it this way, "This signet from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life." Ephesians 1:14

What that says is that the joy we experience, the feeling of security we have, the knowledge that God is present with us always, the peace that is ours because God's Holy Spirit is with us is just a taste of what it will be like when we are with God forever in Heaven. It is the first installment.

WOW! WOW! Just think, we are seeing only a little of what Jesus is getting ready for us. He promised, when He was going back to Heaven that, "I am going there to prepare a place for you." John 14:3 If He is preparing it we know it is going to be way beyond what we can imagine. Think about the universe He created. Think about how amazing and beautiful it is. Now, think about a place Jesus would be preparing for His own children...those of us He died to save and make His own.

You are God's child. Signed, sealed and delivered by God's Holy Spirit. Delivered to a place that will be much more wonderful than anything we can experience, or imagine, here on earth.

**Memory Verse:** "Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance..." Ephesians 1:13, 14

\*Underlined sentences in the Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.

# Student Worksheet

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Page 4 of 4, Lesson Six

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**Memory Verse:** “Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance...” Ephesians 1:13, 14

>We are told that when we \_\_\_\_\_, we were given a very special \_\_\_\_\_. God places His Holy Spirit in us as a guarantee of our \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with Him.

>God says that when we believe, in response to the good news that we can have salvation through \_\_\_\_\_, God makes a \_\_\_\_\_. His Holy Spirit comes to live in us and will not \_\_\_\_\_ us.

>When God’s Holy Spirit comes into our lives, He is \_\_\_\_\_ that we are \_\_\_\_\_ children, sealed ...identified...as God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

>God sends His Holy Spirit to be the \_\_\_\_\_ that guarantees that we are His and that we will inherit all that is His. He \_\_\_\_\_ that with His own power. No one can \_\_\_\_\_ that...not even Satan himself.

>What that says is that the \_\_\_\_\_ we experience, the feeling of \_\_\_\_\_ we have, the knowledge that God is present with us \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ that is ours because God’s Holy Spirit is with us is just a \_\_\_\_\_ of what it will be like when we are with God forever in \_\_\_\_\_.

>You are God’s \_\_\_\_\_. Signed, \_\_\_\_\_ and delivered by God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

### How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God’s Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus’ name. Jesus’ death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer and be ready to live for him all the rest of your life.