

License Information

Translation Notes (unfoldingWord) is based on: unfoldingWord® Translation Notes, [unfoldingWord](#), 2022, which is licensed under a [CC BY-SA 4.0 license](#).

This PDF version is provided under the same license.

Translation Notes (unfoldingWord)

Ephesians 1:1 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nPaul names himself as the writer of this letter to the believers in the church at Ephesus (and elsewhere). Except where noted, all instances of "you" and "your" refer to the Ephesian believers as well as to all believers, and so are plural.

See: Forms of You

Ephesians 1:1 (#2)

"Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus" - "to the saints, the ones being"

Your language may have a particular way of introducing the author of a letter and the intended audience. Alternate translation: "I, Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ ... write this letter to you, God's holy people"

Ephesians 1:1 (#3)

"in Christ Jesus"

The phrase **in Christ Jesus** and similar expressions are metaphors that frequently occur in the New Testament letters. They express the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him, picturing believers as being surrounded by Christ. Alternate translation: "in close relationship to Christ Jesus"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:2 (#1)

"Grace to you and peace"

This is a common greeting and blessing that Paul often uses in the beginning of his letters. Use a form in your language that makes it clear that this is a greeting and blessing.

Ephesians 1:3 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nIn this book, unless otherwise stated, the words "us" and "we" refer to Paul, the believers in Ephesus, and all believers.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 1:3 (#2)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul opens his letter by talking about the believers' position and their safety before God.

Ephesians 1:3 (#3)

"Blessed {be} the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "Let us praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:3 (#4)

"the one having blessed us"

Alternate translation: "for God has blessed us"

Ephesians 1:3 (#5)

"every spiritual blessing"

Alternate translation: "every blessing coming from the Spirit of God"

Ephesians 1:3 (#6)

"in the heavenly {places}"

The word **heavenly** refers to the place where God is. Alternate translation: "in the supernatural world"

Ephesians 1:3 (#7)

"in Christ"

Here, **in Christ** could mean: (1) a metaphor referring to our close relationship with Christ. Alternate translation: "by uniting us with Christ" or "because we are united with Christ" (2) what Christ has done. Alternate translation: "through Christ" or "through what Christ has done"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:4 (#1)

"holy and blameless"

Paul uses the two similar words **holy** and **blameless** to emphasize moral goodness. If your language does not have two similar words, you can use one word for both, as in the UST.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 1:4 (#2)

"blameless"

The word **blameless** contains two negative ideas: "blame" or "fault," and "-less," which means "without." If it would be helpful in your language, the two negative ideas can be replaced with the corresponding positive idea, "perfect."

See: Double Negatives

Ephesians 1:5 (#1)

"he predestined" - "himself," - "his"

The words "he," "himself," and "his" refer to God.

Ephesians 1:5 (#2)

"he predestined us for adoption"

The word **us** refers to Paul, the Ephesian church, and all believers in Christ. Alternate translation: "God planned long ago to adopt us"

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 1:5 (#3)

"he predestined us"

Alternate translation: "God chose us ahead of time" or "God chose us long ago"

Ephesians 1:5 (#4)

"for adoption"

Here, **adoption** is a metaphor that refers to becoming part of God's family. Alternate translation: "to become his children"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:5 (#5)

"through Jesus Christ"

God brought believers into his family by the work of **Jesus Christ**.

Ephesians 1:6 (#1)

"he has freely given us in the Beloved One"

Alternate translation: "he has kindly given to us by means of the One whom he loves"

Ephesians 1:6 (#2)

"the Beloved One"

Alternate translation: "the One he loves, Jesus Christ" or "his Son, whom he loves"

Ephesians 1:7 (#1)

"through his blood"

The **blood** of Jesus is a metonym for his death. Alternate translation: "because he died"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 1:7 (#2)**"the riches of his grace"**

Paul speaks of God's **grace** as if it were material wealth. Alternate translation: "greatness of God's grace" or "abundance of God's grace"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:8 (#1)**"which he caused to abound to us"**

Alternate translation: "which he gave us in a great amount" or "being extremely kind to us"

Ephesians 1:8 (#2)**"in all wisdom and understanding"**

This could mean: (1) because he has all wisdom and understanding. (2) so that we might have great wisdom and understanding.

Ephesians 1:8 (#3)**"wisdom and understanding"**

Here, **wisdom** and **understanding** mean very similar things. If your language does not have two similar words, you can use one word for both.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 1:9 (#1)**"according to his good pleasure"**

This could mean: (1) because he wanted to make it known to us. (2) which was what he wanted.

Ephesians 1:9 (#2)**"which he had planned in him"**

Alternate translation: "as he demonstrated this purpose in Christ"

Ephesians 1:9 (#3)**"in him"**

Alternate translation: "by means of Christ"

Ephesians 1:10 (#1)**"with a view to an administration"**

A new sentence can be started here. Alternate translation: "He did this with a view to an administration" or "He did this, thinking about a stewardship"

Ephesians 1:10 (#2)**"of the fullness of time"**

Alternate translation: "when the time is right" or "at the time that he has appointed"

Ephesians 1:10 (#3)**"in him"**

Alternate translation: "under his rule" or "under his authority"

Ephesians 1:11 (#1)**"we were also allotted as a possession. We were predestined"**

Both pronouns **we** and **We** are inclusive in this verse. Paul is referring to all Christians, who were predestined to belong to Christ. In verses 12 and 13 he will divide this group into "we" (exclusive) Jewish Christians and "you" Gentile Christians.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 1:11 (#2)**"we were also allotted as a possession"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. This could mean: (1) God also chose us to be his possession. (2) God also chose us to be heirs.

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:11 (#3)**"We were predestined"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God chose us ahead of time" or "God chose us long ago"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:12 (#1)**"we, the ones having first hoped in Christ"**

Here, the word **we** is exclusive and refers to the Jewish believers who first heard the good news, not the believers at Ephesus.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 1:12 (#2)**"so that we," - "would be for the praise of his glory"**

Alternate translation: "so that we ... would live to praise him for his glory"

Ephesians 1:13 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nPaul has been speaking in the previous two verses about himself and the other Jewish believers, but now he begins speaking about the Ephesian believers.

Ephesians 1:13 (#2)**"the word of truth"**

This could mean: (1) the message about the truth. (2) the true message.

Ephesians 1:13 (#3)**"were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit"**

In this metaphor Paul pictures the **Holy Spirit** as a seal, comparing him to the wax that was placed on

a letter and stamped with a symbol representing the person who wrote the letter. Paul uses this custom as a picture to show how God has used the Holy Spirit to assure us that we belong to him. Alternate translation: "God has placed the Holy Spirit that he promised on you as if he were a seal"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:13 (#4)**"were sealed"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God has sealed you"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:14 (#1)**"a down payment of our inheritance"**

Receiving what God has promised is spoken of in terms of one inheriting property or wealth from a family member. Alternate translation: "an initial portion that we will receive from what God has promised" or "a guarantee that we will receive what God has promised to give us"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:15 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul prays for the Ephesian believers and praises God for the power that believers have through Christ.

Ephesians 1:15 (#2)**"Because of this"**

The connecting phrase **Because of this** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the Ephesians had believed the gospel and had been sealed by the Holy Spirit. The result is that Paul praises God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 1:16 (#1)**"I have not stopped giving thanks"**

Paul uses **not stopped** to emphasize that he continues to thank God. Alternate translation: "I continue to thank God"

See: Litotes

Ephesians 1:16 (#2)**"I have not stopped giving thanks"**

Paul uses this exaggeration to emphasize that he thanks God very often. Alternate translation: "I continue to thank God" or "I often thank God"

See: Hyperbole

Ephesians 1:17 (#1)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Paul prays for the Ephesians. The result is that God would enlighten the Ephesians about all that he has done for them through Christ. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 1:17 (#2)**"a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him"**

Alternate translation: "spiritual wisdom to understand his revelation"

Ephesians 1:18 (#1)**"the eyes of your heart having been enlightened"**

Here, **heart** refers to a person's mind or thinking. Alternate translation: "that you may gain understanding"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 1:18 (#2)**"the eyes of your heart having been enlightened"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "that God may give you understanding" or "that God may enlighten your mind"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:18 (#3)**"the eyes of your heart"**

The phrase **eyes of your heart** is a metaphor for one's ability to gain understanding. Alternate translation: "that you may gain understanding and be enlightened"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:18 (#4)**"having been enlightened"**

Alternate translation: "may be made to see"

Ephesians 1:18 (#5)**"of his calling"**

The **calling** of God refers to his choosing people to believe in him. Alternate translation: "that you have because he chose you to be his people"

Ephesians 1:18 (#6)**"of his inheritance"**

Receiving what God has promised believers is spoken of as if one were inheriting property and wealth from a family member.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:18 (#7)**"the saints"**

Alternate translation: "those whom he has set apart for himself" or "those who belong completely to him"

Ephesians 1:19 (#1)

"the incomparable greatness of his power"

Alternate translation: "God's power, which is far beyond all other power"

Ephesians 1:19 (#2)

"toward us, the ones believing"

Alternate translation: "for us who believe"

Ephesians 1:19 (#3)

"the working of the force of his strength"

Alternate translation: "his great power that is at work for us"

Ephesians 1:19 (#4)

"of the force of his strength"

The words **force** and **strength** have very similar meanings and may be combined. Alternate translation: "of his great strength"

See: Doublet

Ephesians 1:20 (#1)

"having raised him from the dead"

Alternate translation: "when he made him alive again"

Ephesians 1:20 (#2)

"from the dead"

This expression describes all **dead** people together in the underworld. To come back from among them speaks of becoming alive again. Alternate translation: "from among all those who have died"

See: Nominal Adjectives

Ephesians 1:20 (#3)

"seated {him} at his right hand in the heavenly places"

The person who sits **at his right hand** of a king sits at his right side and rules with all the authority of the king at whose right hand or side he sits. This is a metonym of location that represents the authority that the person in that location possesses. Alternate translation: "gave him all authority to rule from heaven"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 1:20 (#4)

"seated {him} at his right hand"

To sit at the **right hand** of God is a symbolic action of receiving great honor and authority from God. Alternate translation: "seated him in the place of honor and authority beside him"

See: Symbolic Action

Ephesians 1:20 (#5)

"in the heavenly places"

The word **heavenly** refers to the place where God is. See how you translated this in [Ephesians 1:3](#).

Ephesians 1:21 (#1)

"far above all rule and authority and power and dominion"

These are all terms for the ranks of supernatural beings, both angelic and demonic. If your language does not have four different terms for rulers or authorities, you can combine them. Alternate translation: "far above all types of supernatural beings"

See: Doublet

Ephesians 1:21 (#2)

"every name being named"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. This could mean: (1) every name that man gives. (2) every name that God gives.

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 1:21 (#3)

"name"

Here, **name** could refer to: (1) a title. (2) a position of authority.

Ephesians 1:21 (#4)

"in this age"

Alternate translation: "at this time"

Ephesians 1:21 (#5)

"in the one coming"

Alternate translation: "in the future"

Ephesians 1:22 (#1)

"under his feet"

Here, **feet** represents Christ's lordship, authority, and power. Alternate translation: "under Christ's power"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 1:22 (#2)

"head over all things"

Here, **head** is a metaphor that refers to the leader or the one who is in charge. Alternate translation: "ruler over all things"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:23 (#1)

"his body"

Just as the head (verse 22) rules all things pertaining to a human body, so Christ is the head of the church **body**.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 1:23 (#2)

"the fullness of the one filling all in all"

Alternate translation: "for Christ fills the church with his life and power just as he gives life to all things"

Ephesians 1:23 (#3)

"the fullness"

This could have: (1) a passive sense, which would mean that Christ fills or completes the church. (2) an active sense, which would mean that the church completes Christ (as a body completes a head).

Ephesians 2:1 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul reminds the believers of their past and the way they now are before God.

Ephesians 2:1 (#2)

"you were dead in your trespasses and sins"

This shows how the inability of a sinful person to obey God is similar to a **dead** person's inability to respond physically. Alternate translation: "you were spiritually dead, unable to do anything but sin"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:1 (#3)

"in your trespasses and sins"

The words **trespasses** and **sins** have similar meanings. Paul uses them together to emphasize the greatness of the people's sin. If your language has just one word for this, the two words can be combined. Alternate translation: "your many sins"

See: Doublet

Ephesians 2:1 (#4)

"in your trespasses and sins"

The words **trespasses** and **sins** are abstract nouns that represent actions. You could use an adjective or a verb for this if that would be helpful to your readers. Alternate translation: "the sinful things that you did" or "always sinning against God"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 2:2 (#1)

"in which you once walked"

Here, "walk" is a metaphor for the way a person lives. Alternate translation: "which is how you lived" or "which you did habitually"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:2 (#2)

"according to the age of this world"

The apostles often used **world** to refer to the selfish behaviors and corrupt values of the people living in this world. Alternate translation: "according to the values of people living in the world" or "following the principles of this present world"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:2 (#3)

"the ruler of the authorities of the air"

This phrase refers to the devil or Satan.

Ephesians 2:2 (#4)

"the spirit that is now working"

Alternate translation: "the spirit of Satan, who is currently working"

Ephesians 2:2 (#5)

"the sons of disobedience"

Alternate translation: "people who routinely disobey God"

See: Idiom

Ephesians 2:3 (#1)

"the desires of the body and of the minds"

The words **body** and **minds** represent the entire person. Alternate translation: "the selfish things that people want to do"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:3 (#2)

"children of wrath"

Alternate translation: "people with whom God is angry"

See: Idiom

Ephesians 2:4 (#1)

"But"

The connecting word **But** introduces a contrast relationship. The love and mercy of God is in sharp contrast to the evil way the Ephesians lived before they believed in God.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 2:4 (#2)

"God being rich in mercy"

The word **mercy** is an abstract noun. Alternate translation: "God is abundantly merciful" or "God is very kind to us"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 2:4 (#3)

"because of his great love with which he loved us"

The word **love** is an abstract noun. Alternate translation: "because he loved us so very much"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 2:5 (#1)

"by grace you have been saved"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God saved you by being gracious to you"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 2:5 (#2)

"by grace you have been saved"

The word **grace** is an abstract noun. Alternate translation: "God saved you by being extremely kind to you" or "God saved you as a free gift"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 2:6 (#1)

"raised us up with {him}"

Here, **raised up** is an idiom for causing someone who has died to become alive again.

See: Idiom

Ephesians 2:6 (#2)

"raised us up with {him}"

This could mean: (1) because God has caused Christ to come alive again, God has already given Paul and the believers in Ephesus new spiritual life. Alternate translation: "God has given us new life because we belong to Christ" (2) because God has caused Christ to come alive again, the believers in Ephesus can know that after they die they will live with Christ, and Paul can speak of the believers living again as if it has already happened. Alternate translation: "we can be sure that God will give us life just as he has caused Christ to come alive again"

See: Predictive Past

Ephesians 2:6 (#3)

"seated us with {him}"

Paul talks about the believers as already **seated** in heaven with Christ because, although it is something that will happen in the future, it was guaranteed by what Christ did in the past. Alternate translation: "it is as though God has already seated us next to Christ"

See: Predictive Past

Ephesians 2:6 (#4)

"in the heavenly places"

The phrase **heavenly places** refers to the place where God is. See how this is translated in [Ephesians 1:3](#). Alternate translation: "in the supernatural world"

Ephesians 2:6 (#5)

"in Christ Jesus"

The phrase **in Christ Jesus** and similar expressions are metaphors that frequently occur in the New Testament letters. They express the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him.

Ephesians 2:7 (#1)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of God raising up believers and seating them in heaven with Christ is to show the extent of his grace in Christ.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 2:7 (#2)

"in the ages that are coming"

Alternate translation: "in the future"

Ephesians 2:8 (#1)

"For"

The connecting word **For** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the Ephesians had been saved by God, and not by their own good works. The result is that people would see the grace of God to us in Christ. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:8 (#2)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God saved you by grace because of your faith in him"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 2:8 (#3)

"For by grace you have been saved"

See how you translated this phrase in [Ephesians 2:5](#).

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 2:8 (#4)

"this {is}"

The word **this** refers back to **by grace you have been saved by faith**.

Ephesians 2:9 (#1)

"not from works, so that no one may boast"

You may want to start a new sentence here. Alternate translation: "Salvation does not come from works, so that no one may boast" or "God does not save a person because of what that person does, so no one can boast and say that he earned his salvation"

Ephesians 2:9 (#2)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of God for saving believers by grace instead of by their works is that no person might boast.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 2:10 (#1)

"For"

The connecting word **For** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that God is the one who created us to do any good works that we do. The result is that people cannot boast. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:10 (#2)

"in Christ Jesus"

The phrase **in Christ Jesus** and similar expressions are metaphors that frequently occur in the New Testament letters. They express the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him.

Ephesians 2:10 (#3)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of God creating us as he did is that we would do the good works that he intended for us to do.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 2:10 (#4)

"we would walk in them"

To **walk** on a path is a metaphor for how a person lives his life. Here, **in them** refers to the "good works." Alternate translation: "we would always and continually do those good deeds"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:11 (#1)**"Therefore"**

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that they were saved by God and not by anything they had done on their own. The result is that the Ephesians would remember that they were once separated from God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:11 (#2)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul reminds these believers that God has now made Gentiles and Jews into one body through Christ and his cross.

Ephesians 2:11 (#3)**"were} Gentiles in the flesh"**

Here, **Gentiles** refers to people who were not born Jewish.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:11 (#4)**"uncircumcised"**

Non-Jewish people were not circumcised as babies and thus the Jews considered them people who do not follow any of God's laws. Alternate translation: "uncircumcised pagans"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:11 (#5)**"circumcised"**

This was another term for Jewish people because all male infants were **circumcised**. Alternate translation: "circumcised people"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:11 (#6)**"by the ones being called"**

You can translate this with an active form. Alternate translation: "by what people call" or "by those whom people call"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 2:11 (#7)**"the ones being called "circumcised" in the flesh, performed by human hands"**

This could refer to: (1) the Jews, who are circumcised by humans. (2) the Jews, who circumcise the physical body.

Ephesians 2:12 (#1)**"For"**

The connecting word **For** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that they were not part of the Jews, who were circumcised. The result is that the Gentile Ephesians were separated from God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:12 (#2)**"apart from Christ"**

Alternate translation: "unbelievers"

Ephesians 2:12 (#3)**"strangers to the covenants of the promise"**

Paul speaks to the Gentile believers as if they had been foreigners, kept out of the land of God's **covenants** and **promise**.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:13 (#1)**"But"**

The connecting word **But** introduces a contrast relationship. The current condition of the Ephesian Gentile believers, after they believed in Christ, is that they are near to God. That is in contrast to their previous condition, before they believed in Christ, of being separated from God.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 2:13 (#2)

"you, the ones once being far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ"

Not belonging to God due to sin is spoken of as **being far away** from God. Belonging to God because of **the blood of Christ** is spoken of as being **brought near** to God. Alternate translation: "you who once did not belong to God now belong to God because of the blood of Christ"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:13 (#3)

"by the blood of Christ"

Here the **blood of Christ** is a metonym for his death. Alternate translation: "by Christ's death" or "when Christ died for us"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:14 (#1)

"For"

The connecting word **For** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Christ himself joined them to the Jewish believers. The result is that the Ephesian Gentile believers were brought near to God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:14 (#2)

"he himself is our peace"

Alternate translation: "Jesus gives us his peace"

Ephesians 2:14 (#3)

"our peace"

The word **our** refers to Paul and his readers and so, it is inclusive.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 2:14 (#4)

"the one having made the two one"

Alternate translation: "who made the Jews and Gentiles one"

Ephesians 2:14 (#5)

"in his flesh"

The phrase **his flesh**, his physical body, is a metonym for his body dying. Alternate translation: "by the death of his body on the cross"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:14 (#6)

"the middle wall of partition, the hostility"

The **hostility** between the Jews and Gentiles is compared to a **wall**. Alternate translation: "the hostility that was like a wall that separated them"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:15 (#1)

"He abolished the law of the commandments in regulations"

Jesus' blood satisfies the law of Moses so that both the Jews and Gentiles can live at peace in God. Alternate translation: "He took away the requirements in the law of Moses"

Ephesians 2:15 (#2)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Christ in

abolishing the law was to join the Jews and the Gentiles together into one group.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 2:15 (#3)

"one new man"

Paul talks about the unity of Jews and Gentiles as if they had become **one** person. Alternate translation: "a single new people"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:15 (#4)

"in himself"

Being joined to Christ is what makes reconciliation possible between Jews and Gentiles. Paul describes this relationship as though Christ surrounded all of us. Alternate translation: "because he made it possible"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:16 (#1)

"so that he might reconcile both"

Alternate translation: "so that Christ might bring the Jews and the Gentiles together in peace"

Ephesians 2:16 (#2)

"as one body"

The church is often pictured as the **body** of Christ, who is its head. Here it is comprised of both Jews and Gentiles.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:16 (#3)

"through the cross"

Here the **cross** here represents Christ's death on the cross. Alternate translation: "by means of Christ's death on the cross"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 2:16 (#4)

"putting to death the hostility"

Stopping their **hostility** is spoken of as if he killed their hostility. By dying on the cross, Jesus eliminated the reason for Jews and Gentiles to be hostile toward each other. Neither are now required to live according to the law of Moses. Alternate translation: "stopping them from hating one another"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:17 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul tells the Ephesians that Gentile believers are also now just as much a part of God's people as are Jewish believers. The Jewish apostles and prophets are theirs, as is Christ, and they all form a temple for God in the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:17 (#2)

"and} proclaimed peace"

Alternate translation: "and announced the gospel of peace" or "declaring the gospel of peace"

Ephesians 2:17 (#3)

"to you, the ones far away"

Paul pictures the Gentiles (non-Jews), who were not part of God's people, as though they were physically distant from God.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:17 (#4)

"to the ones near"

Paul pictures the Jews, who were God's people by birth, as though they were physically close to God.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:18 (#1)**"for through him both have access"**

Here, **both** refers to Paul and the believing Jews, and the believing non-Jews.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 2:18 (#2)**"for"**

The connecting word **for** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that he himself is the one who enabled both Jew and Gentile to come to the Father. The result is that Christ proclaimed peace to both the Jews and the Gentiles. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:18 (#3)**"in one Spirit"**

All believers, both Jewish and Gentile, are enabled to enter into the presence of God the Father by the same Holy **Spirit**. Alternate translation: "by means of the same Spirit"

Ephesians 2:19 (#1)**"So then"**

The connecting phrase **So then** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Christ gave them access to God through the Spirit. The result is that the Ephesian believers are no longer separated from God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 2:19 (#2)**"strangers and foreigners"**

The words **strangers** and **foreigners** have very similar meanings and may be combined. Alternate translation: "people who had no relationship to God"

See: Doublet

Ephesians 2:19 (#3)**"Instead"**

The connecting word **Instead** introduces a contrast relationship. The previous separation of the Ephesians from God is in contrast to their current status as citizens of the kingdom of God and members of his household.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 2:19 (#4)**"you are fellow citizens with the saints and {members} of the household of God"**

Paul is again speaking of the spiritual condition of Gentiles after they become believers as he would speak about foreigners becoming **citizens** of a different nation.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:20 (#1)**"been built on the foundation"**

Paul speaks of God's people as if they were a building. Christ is the cornerstone, the apostles are the **foundation**, and the believers are the structure. Alternate translation: "you depend on the teaching"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:20 (#2)**"been built"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God has built you"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 2:21 (#1)**"the whole building, being fit together, grows into a holy temple"**

Paul continues to speak of Christ's family as if it were a **building**. In the same way that a builder fits stones together while building, so Christ is fitting us together. Alternate translation: "all of us, as we grow together, become a holy group that worships God"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:21 (#2)

"in whom" - "in the Lord"

These metaphors express the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him. Alternate translation: "In Christ ... in the Lord Jesus"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:22 (#1)

"in whom"

You can translate this as "in Christ," which is a metaphor that expresses the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:22 (#2)

"you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God in the Spirit"

This describes how believers are being put together to become a **place** where **God** will permanently live through the power of the Holy **Spirit**. Alternate translation: "you also are being joined to this group where God lives by his Spirit"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 2:22 (#3)

"you also are being built together"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God is also building you together"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:1 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nTo make clear the hidden truth about the church to believers, Paul refers back to the oneness of Jews and Gentiles and how believers from both groups form part of the one group that worships God, like the stones that form one temple.

Ephesians 3:1 (#2)

"For this reason"

The connecting phrase **For this reason** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is what Paul talked about in Chapter 2, that Christ showed his grace by removing the division between Jews and Gentiles and making them into one group. The result is that Paul prays for the Gentiles. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 3:1 (#3)

"For this reason"

You may need to make explicit what the reason is. Alternate translation: "Because of God's grace to you" You may also need to make explicit here what the result is, as in the UST, because Paul does not state the result until 3:14, that he prays for them.

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 3:1 (#4)

"the prisoner of Christ Jesus"

Alternate translation: "the one who is in prison because I serve Christ Jesus"

Ephesians 3:2 (#1)

"the stewardship of the grace of God that was given to me for you"

Here, **grace** could mean: (1) the gift of the gospel that Paul is bringing to the Gentiles, and you could translate, "the responsibility that God gave me to bring his grace to you." (2) the gift to Paul of being

the steward of the gospel for the Gentiles, and you could translate that as “the responsibility that God graciously gave me for your benefit.”

Ephesians 3:3 (#1)

"according to a revelation made known to me"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: “according to what God revealed to me”

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:3 (#2)

"about which I already wrote in brief"

Paul refers here to another letter that he had written to these people.

Ephesians 3:5 (#1)

"which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: “God did not make these things known to people in the past”

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:5 (#2)

"as it now has been revealed by the Spirit"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: “but now the Spirit has revealed it” or “but now the Spirit has made it known”

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:6 (#1)

"that the Gentiles are to be fellow heirs" - "through the gospel"

This is the hidden truth that Paul began to explain in the previous verse. The **Gentiles** who receive

Christ also receive everything that the Jewish believers receive from God.

Ephesians 3:6 (#2)

"fellow members of the body"

The church is often referred to as the **body** of Christ.

Ephesians 3:6 (#3)

"in Christ Jesus"

The phrase **in Christ Jesus** and similar expressions are metaphors that frequently occur in the New Testament letters. They express the strongest kind of relationship possible between Christ and those who believe in him.

Ephesians 3:6 (#4)

"through the gospel"

This could mean: (1) because of the **gospel**, the Gentiles are fellow sharers in the promise. (2) because of the **gospel**, the Gentiles are fellow heirs and members of the body and fellow sharers in the promise.

Ephesians 3:8 (#1)

"unsearchable"

Paul speaks of everything that Christ offers as something so physically vast that it cannot be fully explored. Alternate translation: “unable to be completely known”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:8 (#2)

"riches of Christ"

Paul speaks of the truth about **Christ** and the blessings he brings as if they were material wealth.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:9 (#1)

"of the mystery that was hidden from the ages in God, the one having created all things"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "of God, who created all things, kept this plan hidden for long ages in the past"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:10 (#1)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of God revealing the mystery of the church to Paul is to enable the rulers in the heavenly places to see the wisdom of God.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 3:10 (#2)

"the multifaceted wisdom of God might be made known to the rulers and to the authorities in the heavenly places"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God may make his great wisdom known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:10 (#3)

"to the rulers and to the authorities"

The words **rulers** and **authorities** share similar meanings. Paul uses them together to emphasize that every spiritual being will know God's wisdom. If your language does not have two words for this, you can use one.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 3:10 (#4)

"in the heavenly places"

The phrase **heavenly places** refers to the place where God is. See how this is translated in [Ephesians 1:3](#). Alternate translation: "in the supernatural world"

Ephesians 3:10 (#5)

"the multifaceted wisdom of God"

Paul talks of God's **wisdom** as though it were an object with many surfaces. Alternate translation: "the complex wisdom of God" or "how extremely wise God is"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:11 (#1)

"according to the eternal purpose"

Alternate translation: "in keeping with the eternal plan" or "consistent with the eternal plan"

Ephesians 3:12 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nIn the next section, Paul praises God in his sufferings and prays for these Ephesian believers.

Ephesians 3:12 (#2)

"we have boldness"

Alternate translation: "we are without fear" or "we have courage"

Ephesians 3:12 (#3)

"boldness and access"

The two words **boldness** and **access** work together to express one idea: "bold access" or "boldness to enter"

See: Hendiadys

Ephesians 3:12 (#4)

"access with confidence"

It may be helpful to state explicitly that this **access** is into God's presence. Alternate translation: "access into God's presence with confidence" or "freedom to enter into God's presence with confidence"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 3:12 (#5)

"confidence"

Alternate translation: "certainty" or "assurance"

Ephesians 3:13 (#1)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the believers have access to Christ with confidence. The result is that the believers will not be discouraged. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 3:13 (#2)

"for you, which is your glory"

Here, **your glory** is a metonym for the salvation and eternal life that the Ephesians will have because of Paul's work of telling them about Christ, which resulted in his suffering in prison. You can state this as a new sentence. Alternate translation: "for you. They bring you a wonderful benefit" or "for you. They result in your salvation"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 3:14 (#1)

"For this reason"

The connecting phrase **For this reason** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Paul's sufferings have caused glory for the believers. The result is that Paul prays to the Father. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 3:14 (#2)

"For this reason"

You may need to make explicit what the reason is. Alternate translation: "Because God has done all this for you"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 3:14 (#3)

"I bend my knees to the Father"

Bent **knees** are a picture of the whole person in an attitude of prayer. Alternate translation: "I bow down in prayer to the Father" or "I humbly pray to the Father"

See: Synecdoche

Ephesians 3:15 (#1)

"from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named"

The act of naming here probably also represents the act of creating. Alternate translation: "who created and named every family in heaven and on earth"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:16 (#1)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Paul's prayer is that the Ephesian believers would be strengthened by God in their faith and love.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 3:16 (#2)

"he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power"

Alternate translation: "God, because he is so great and powerful, would allow you to become strong with his power"

Ephesians 3:16 (#3)**"he would grant"**

Alternate translation: "he would give"

Ephesians 3:17 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul continues the prayer he began in [Ephesians 3:14](#).

Ephesians 3:17 (#2)**"that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, being rooted and grounded in love"**

This is the second item for which Paul prays that God will "grant" the Ephesians "according to the riches of his glory." The first is that they would "be strengthened" ([Ephesians 3:16](#)).

Ephesians 3:17 (#3)**"that Christ may live in your hearts through faith"**

Here, **hearts** represent a person's inner being, and **through** expresses the means by which Christ lives within the believer. Christ lives in the hearts of believers because God graciously allows them to have faith. Alternate translation: "that Christ may live within you because you trust in him"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:17 (#4)**"being rooted and grounded in love"**

Paul speaks of their faith as if it were a tree that has deep roots or a house built on a solid foundation. Alternate translation: "you will be like a firmly rooted tree and a building built on stone"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:18 (#1)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Christ would live in their hearts. The result is that the Ephesian believers would fully know the love of God and be filled with God's fullness. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 3:18 (#2)**"to comprehend"**

This is the third item for which Paul bends his knees and prays; the first is that God will grant that they be strengthened ([Ephesians 3:16](#)) and the second is that Christ may live in their hearts through faith ([Ephesians 3:17](#)).

Ephesians 3:18 (#3)**"all the saints"**

Alternate translation: "all the believers in Christ"

Ephesians 3:18 (#4)**"the width and length and height and depth"**

In this metaphor Paul pictures something that is not physical or measurable as something that is physical but stretches out in all directions and, thus, is very large. This could refer to: (1) the intensity of Christ's love for us. Alternate translation: "how very much Christ loves us" (2) the greatness of God's wisdom. Alternate translation: "how very wise God is"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:18 (#5)**"the width and length and height and depth"**

It may be necessary to state explicitly what these words refer to. If so, you could combine this with the phrase from the next verse and say: "the width and length and height and depth of, and truly know the love of Christ" or "the width and length and

height and depth of the love of Christ, and truly know it"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 3:19 (#1)

"and to know the love of Christ"

This continues the idea from the previous verse. They both refer to knowing the greatness of the love of Christ. Alternate translation: "that you can know how great Christ's love for us is"

Ephesians 3:19 (#2)

"so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God"

This is the fourth item for which Paul bends his knees and prays ([Ephesians 3:14](#)). The first is that they would "be strengthened" ([Ephesians 3:16](#)), the second is that "Christ would live in their hearts through faith" ([Ephesians 3:17](#)), and the third is that they "could comprehend Christ's love" ([Ephesians 3:18](#)).

Ephesians 3:19 (#3)

"so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God"

In this metaphor Paul pictures the Ephesian believers as containers into which **God** can pour himself. Alternate translation: "so God can give you everything that he has to give you"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 3:19 (#4)

"so that you may be filled"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "so that God can fill you"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 3:19 (#5)

"with all the fullness of God"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **fullness**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "with everything that God is full of"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 3:19 (#6)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the Ephesian believers would know the love of Christ. The result is that they would be filled with the fullness of God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 3:20 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nThe words "we" and "us" in this book continue to include Paul and all believers.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

Ephesians 3:20 (#2)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul concludes his prayer with a blessing.

Ephesians 3:20 (#3)

"And to the one"

Alternate translation: "Now to God, who"

Ephesians 3:20 (#4)

"to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think"

Alternate translation: "to do much more than all that we ask or think" or "to do things that are much greater than anything that we ask him for or think about"

Ephesians 3:21 (#1)**"to him {be} the glory in the church"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **glory**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "may God's people glorify him" or "may God's people praise him for how great he is" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:1 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nBecause of what Paul has been writing to the Ephesians, he tells them how they should live their lives as believers and again emphasizes that believers are to agree with each other.

Ephesians 4:1 (#2)**"Therefore"**

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that God will be glorified in the church for all generations. The result is that believers should walk in a way that is worthy of the Lord. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:1 (#3)**"the prisoner for the Lord"**

Alternate translation: "someone who is in prison because he serves the Lord"

Ephesians 4:1 (#4)**"to walk worthily of the calling"**

The phrase **to walk** is a common way to express the idea of living one's life.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:1 (#5)**"of the calling by which you were called"**

Here, **the calling** refers to the fact that God chose them to be his people. Alternate translation: "because God chose you to be his people"

Ephesians 4:2 (#1)**"with all humility and gentleness"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **humility**, **gentleness**, and **patience**, you could express the same ideas with verbal forms. Alternate translation: "to learn to be humble, gentle, and patient"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:3 (#1)**"to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"**

Here Paul speaks of **peace** as if it were a **bond** that ties people together. This is a metaphor for being united with other people by living peacefully with them. Alternate translation: "to live peacefully with one another and remain united as the Spirit made possible"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:3 (#2)**"to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **unity** and **peace**, you could express the same ideas with verbal forms. Alternate translation: "to live peacefully with one another and remain united as the Spirit made possible"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:4 (#1)**"There is} one body"**

The church is often referred to as the **body** of Christ.

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:4 (#2)

"one Spirit"

Alternate translation: "only one Holy Spirit"

Ephesians 4:4 (#3)

"you were called in one hope of your calling"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God called you to have one confident hope in your calling" or "there is one thing that God also chose you to be confident in and expect him to do"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:6 (#1)

"Father of all," - "over all" - "through all" - "in all"

The word **all** here means "everything."

Ephesians 4:7 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nThe quote here is from a song that King David wrote.

Ephesians 4:7 (#2)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul reminds believers of the gifts that Christ gives believers to use in the church, which is the whole body of believers.

Ephesians 4:7 (#3)

"to each one of us this grace has been given"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "God has given grace to each one of us" or "God gave a gift to each believer"

Ephesians 4:7 (#4)

"to each one of us this grace has been given"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **grace**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "God has given a gift to each believer"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:8 (#1)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that every believer has been given a spiritual gift. The result is that the Scripture says Jesus gave gifts to men. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:8 (#2)

"Having ascended to the heights"

Alternate translation: "When Christ went up into heaven"

Ephesians 4:9 (#1)

"He ascended"

Alternate translation: "Christ went up"

Ephesians 4:9 (#2)

"he also descended"

Alternate translation: "Christ also came down"

Ephesians 4:9 (#3)

"into the lower regions of the earth"

This could refer to: (1) the **lower regions** as a part of the **earth**. (2) **the lower regions** as another way

of referring to the **earth** itself. Alternate translation: "into the lower regions, the earth"

Ephesians 4:10 (#1)

"so that he might fill all things"

Alternate translation: "so that he might be working powerfully everywhere"

Ephesians 4:10 (#2)

"he might fill"

Alternate translation: "he might complete" or "he might satisfy"

Ephesians 4:11 (#1)

"pastors"

The word translated as **pastors** here is the same word that is translated as "shepherds" elsewhere in the ULT. It is the plural form of the word used by Jesus to refer to himself in John 10:10 where he says that he is the "good Shepherd." The idea here is that in a similar way to how a shepherd feeds, protects, and watches over the well-being of his flock, so pastors feed (with spiritual food) and watch over and protect the spiritual well-being of those within their church. If it would help your readers, you could indicate explicitly the meaning of the word "pastors." Alternate translation: "spiritual shepherds" or "shepherding Christian leaders"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 4:12 (#1)

"for the equipping of the saints"

Alternate translation: "to prepare the people whom he has set apart" or "to provide the believers with what they need"

Ephesians 4:12 (#2)

"for the work of serving"

Alternate translation: "so that they can serve others"

Ephesians 4:12 (#3)

"for building up of the body of Christ"

Paul is speaking of people who grow spiritually as if they were doing exercises to increase the strength of their physical bodies.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:12 (#4)

"building up"

Alternate translation: "the improvement"

Ephesians 4:12 (#5)

"of the body of Christ"

The **body of Christ** refers to all of the members of Christ's Church.

Ephesians 4:13 (#1)

"we all reach to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God"

The believers need to know Jesus as the **Son of God** if they are to be united in **faith** and mature as believers.

Ephesians 4:13 (#2)

"we all reach to the unity of the faith"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **unity**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "we all become equally strong in faith" or "we all become united together in faith"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:13 (#3)

"we all reach to the unity of the faith"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **faith**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: “become united together as believers”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:13 (#4)

"the knowledge of the Son of God"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **knowledge**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: “all know well the Son of God”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:13 (#5)

"of the Son of God"

Son of God is an important title for Jesus.

See: Translating Son and Father

Ephesians 4:13 (#6)

"to a mature man"

Alternate translation: “to a mature believer”

Ephesians 4:13 (#7)

"mature"

Alternate translation: “fully developed” or “grown up” or “complete”

Ephesians 4:14 (#1)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of gifted people in the church is to bring all the believers to spiritual maturity.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 4:14 (#2)

"we may no longer be children"

Paul refers to believers who have not grown spiritually as if they were **children** who have had very little experience in life. Alternate translation: “we may no longer be like children”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:14 (#3)

"tossed back and forth by the waves and carried away by every wind of teaching"

Paul speaks of a believer who has not become mature and follows various wrong teachings as if that believer were a boat and the teachings were the **wind** and **waves** that move the boat in different directions on the water. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:14 (#4)

"through the trickery of men in cleverness for deceitful scheming"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **trickery**, **cleverness**, and **scheming**, you could express the same ideas with verbal forms. Alternate translation: “by crafty people who trick believers with clever lies”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:15 (#1)

"Instead"

The connecting word **Instead** introduces a contrast relationship. Following every changing teaching is in contrast to becoming mature in Christ and building up his body. Use a word in your language that indicates contrast.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 4:15 (#2)

"speaking truth"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **truth**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "speaking truthfully"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:15 (#3)

"in love"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **love**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "as the members love one another"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:15 (#4)

"into him who is the head"

Paul uses a metaphor of the human body to describe how Christ causes believers to work together in harmony as the **head** of a body causes the body parts to work together to grow in a healthy way. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:16 (#1)

"from whom the whole body," - "causes the growth of the body"

Paul continues the metaphor of the believers as a human **body** with Christ as the head to describe how Christ causes believers to work together in harmony as the head of a body causes the body parts to work together to grow in a healthy way. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:16 (#2)

"for building up itself in love"

The word **for** indicates a purpose clause. The purpose of all of the believers working together in harmony, as the members of a human body do, is so that all believers will grow in our ability to love each other and to love God. Use a word in your language that marks this as a purpose clause.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 4:16 (#3)

"in love"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **love**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "as the members love one another" or "to be able to love each other more"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:16 (#4)

"by every supporting ligament"

Paul continues the metaphor comparing the believers to a human body. A **ligament** is a strong band that connects bones or holds organs in place in the body. Just as the body is held together by strong ligaments, so the believers are held together by love that grows stronger as the body parts grow and work together. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:17 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul tells them what they should no longer do now that they, as believers, are sealed by the Holy Spirit of God.

Ephesians 4:17 (#2)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Christ wants every believer to become spiritually mature and to serve the other believers. The result is that the Ephesian believers should no longer act as the Gentiles act. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:17 (#3)**"Therefore, I say this and strongly urge"**

Alternate translation: "Because of what I have just said, I will now say something more in order to strongly encourage"

Ephesians 4:17 (#4)**"in the Lord"**

This could be: (1) referring to the authority of the Lord. (2) stating that we all belong to the Lord.

Ephesians 4:17 (#5)**"you" - "to walk no longer as the Gentiles also walk, in futility of their minds"**

Paul commonly uses this metaphor that compares walking to living one's life. Alternate translation: "you ... to stop living like the Gentiles with their worthless thoughts"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:18 (#1)**"They have been darkened in their understanding"**

This metaphor compares wrong thinking with darkness. Alternate translation: "they no longer think or reason clearly" or "they are not able to understand"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:18 (#2)**"They have been darkened in their understanding"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "Their way of thinking has become dark" or "They no longer think or reason clearly" or "They are not able to understand"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:18 (#3)**"alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "because they do not know God, they cannot live the way that God wants his people to live" or "they have cut themselves off from the life of God by their ignorance"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:18 (#4)**"alienated"**

Alternate translation: "cut off" or "separated"

Ephesians 4:18 (#5)**"ignorance"**

Alternate translation: "lack of knowledge" or "lack of information"

Ephesians 4:18 (#6)**"because of the hardness of their hearts"**

The phrase **hardness of their hearts** is a metaphor that means "stubbornness." Alternate translation: "because they are stubborn" or "because they refuse to listen to God"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:18 (#7)**"because of"**

The connecting word **because** introduces a reason-result relationship. The first reason is that they are ignorant of him. The result is that the Gentiles are separated from God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:18 (#8)**"because of"**

The connecting word **because** introduces a reason-result relationship. The second reason is that their hearts are hardened. The result is that Gentiles are separated from God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:19 (#1)

"handed themselves over to sensuality"

Paul speaks of these people as if they were objects that they themselves were giving to other people, and he speaks of the way that they want to satisfy their physical desires as if the desires were the person to whom they give themselves. Alternate translation: "have given in to every physical desire" or "only want to satisfy their physical desires"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:20 (#1)

"But you did not thus learn about Christ"

The word **thus** refers to the way that the Gentiles live, as described in [Ephesians 4:17–19](#). This emphasizes that what the believers learned from Christ was the opposite of that. Alternate translation: "But what you learned about the ways of Christ was not like that"

Ephesians 4:20 (#2)

"But"

The connecting word **But** introduces a contrast relationship. The sinful way the Gentiles live is in contrast to the way that Paul taught the Ephesians to live according to the truth of Jesus. Use a connecting word in your language that marks a contrast here

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 4:21 (#1)

"if indeed you have heard about him and were taught in him"

Paul knows that the people to whom he is writing have **heard** and been **taught** these things. He is

using irony as a form of rebuke—if they are doing things contrary to the way of Christ, they know better than that and need to stop. See the UST.

See: Irony

Ephesians 4:21 (#2)

"were taught in him"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. This could mean: (1) they received instruction in his ways. (2) Jesus' people have taught them.

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:21 (#3)

"as the truth is in Jesus"

See the UST. Alternate translation: "as Jesus teaches us the true way to live" or "as everything about Jesus is true"

Ephesians 4:22 (#1)

"You are to put aside {what} belongs to your former manner of life"

Paul is speaking of moral qualities as if they were pieces of clothing. Alternate translation: "You must stop living according to your former manner of life"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:22 (#2)

"You are to put aside {what} belongs to your former manner of life, the old man"

Paul is speaking of a way of living as if it were a person. Alternate translation: "You must stop doing the things that your former self did" or "Stop doing the things that you used to do"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:22 (#3)

"the old man"

The **old man** refers to the “old nature” or “former self,” the way that the person was before the person became a believer in Christ

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:22 (#4)

"being corrupted according to {its} deceitful desires"

Paul is continuing to speak of a sinful way of living as if it were a person who does evil things. Alternate translation: “when you fooled yourself into thinking that it was good to do whatever evil thing that you wanted to do” See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:23 (#1)

"to be renewed in the spirit of your minds"

This may be translated with an active form. Alternate translation: “to allow God to change your attitudes and thoughts” or “to allow God to give you new attitudes and thoughts” See the UST.

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:24 (#1)

"in righteousness and holiness of the truth"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **righteousness**, **holiness**, and **truth**, you could express the same ideas with verbal forms. Alternate translation: “truly righteous and holy”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:24 (#2)

"to put on the new man"

Paul continues to speak of a way of living as if it were a person, and also as if it were clothing, so that one could **put on** the **new** person like a robe. Alternate translation: “be the new person” or “start living in the new way”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:25 (#1)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that God has created the believers as new, holy people. The result is that they would stop acting immorally like they used to live. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:25 (#2)

"putting aside the lying"

Paul speaks of telling lies as if they were objects that the believers could set aside. Alternate translation: “no longer telling lies” or “instead of telling lies”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:25 (#3)

"let each of you speak truth"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **truth**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: “each of you should speak truthfully”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:25 (#4)

"because"

The connecting word **because** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that believers are members of the same body of Christ. The result is that believers should speak the truth to each other. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 4:25 (#5)

"we are members of one another"

Here Paul speaks of the close union of believers with each other as if they were each part of one

single body. Alternate translation: “we belong to one another” or “we are all members of God’s family”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:26 (#1)

"Be angry and do not sin"

Alternate translation: “You may get angry, but do not sin” or “If you become angry, do not sin”

Ephesians 4:26 (#2)

"Do not let the sun go down on your indignation"

The **sun** going **down** represents nightfall or the end of the day. Alternate translation: “You must stop being angry before night comes” or “Let go of your anger before the day ends”

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 4:27 (#1)

"nor give an opportunity to the devil"

Alternate translation: “and do not give the devil an opportunity to lead you into sin”

Ephesians 4:28 (#1)

"But rather"

The connecting phrase **But rather** introduces a contrast relationship. The way a former thief should work hard to have something to share with others is in contrast to the way he formerly stole for himself.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 4:28 (#2)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of working hard with one's own hands is to be able to meet the needs of others.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 4:29 (#1)

"corrupt talk"

This refers to speech that is cruel or rude.

Ephesians 4:29 (#2)

"but"

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. Speaking what is corrupt is in contrast to speaking good things that will build up others.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 4:29 (#3)

"for building up"

Alternate translation: “for encouraging” or “for strengthening”

Ephesians 4:29 (#4)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of speaking things that build up others is to give grace to those who hear the words.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 4:29 (#5)

"of the {one in} need, so that it might give grace to the hearers"

Alternate translation: “the needy. In this way you will help those who hear you”

Ephesians 4:29 (#6)

"so that it might give grace to the hearers"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **grace**, you could express

the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "so that those who hear you may be spiritually encouraged"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:30 (#1)

"do not grieve"

Alternate translation: "do not distress" or "do not upset"

Ephesians 4:30 (#2)

"by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption"

The Holy Spirit assures believers that God will redeem them. Paul speaks of the Holy Spirit as if he were a mark that God puts on believers to show that he owns them. Alternate translation: "for he is the seal that assures you that God will redeem you on the day of redemption" or "for he is the one who assures you that God will redeem you on the day of redemption"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:30 (#3)

"by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "for he has sealed you for the day of redemption"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 4:31 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul finishes his instructions on what believers should not do and ends with what they must do.

Ephesians 4:31 (#2)

"Let" - "be removed"

Paul speaks of attitudes and behaviors as though they were physical objects that can be removed. Alternate translation: "you must not allow ... to be part of your life"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 4:31 (#3)

"bitterness, and rage, and anger"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **bitterness**, **rage**, and **anger**, you could express the same ideas as adjectives. Alternate translation: "being bitter, and intensely angry, and angry"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:31 (#4)

"malice"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **malice**, you could express the same idea as an adjective. Alternate translation: "being malicious"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 4:32 (#1)

"Instead"

The connecting word **Instead** introduces a contrast relationship. Speaking angry and hurtful things is in contrast to speaking kind and tender things to one another.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 4:32 (#2)

"tenderhearted"

Alternate translation: "gentle and compassionate towards others"

Ephesians 5:1 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul continues to tell the believers how they should and should not live as God's children.

Ephesians 5:1 (#2)

"Therefore, be imitators of God"

The word **imitators** is a verbal noun, and can be translated with a verb. Alternate translation: "Therefore, imitate God" or "Therefore you should do what God does."

Ephesians 5:1 (#3)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason (stated in [Ephesians 4:32](#)) is that God has forgiven us through Christ. The result (stated here) is that believers should imitate what God is like. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:1 (#4)

"as beloved children"

God desires us to imitate or follow him since we are his spiritual **children**. Alternate translation: "as dearly loved children imitate their fathers" or "because you are his children and he loves you dearly"

See: Simile

Ephesians 5:2 (#1)

"walk in love"

To **walk** is a common way to express the idea of living one's life. Alternate translation: "live a life of love" or "always love each other"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:2 (#2)

"an offering and sacrifice to God for a fragrant aroma"

This metaphor compares Christ dying on the cross for our sins with an Old Testament **sacrifice** for sin, which were roasted in a fire and gave off a pleasing smell. Alternate translation: "like a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God" or "an offering and sacrifice to God that pleased God very much" See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:3 (#1)

"But sexual immorality and every impurity or greed must not even be named among you"

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. "Do not do anything that would let anyone think that you are guilty of sexual immorality or any kind of impurity or greed."

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 5:3 (#2)

"But"

The connecting word **But** introduces a contrast relationship. The fragrant offering and sacrifice to God is in contrast to sinful acts and thoughts that are not fitting for saints. Use a connecting word that indicates a contrast in your language.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:3 (#3)

"every impurity"

Alternate translation: "any moral uncleanness"

Ephesians 5:4 (#1)

"but instead, thanksgiving"

The word **thanksgiving** is a verbal noun, and can be translated with a verb: "instead of those things, you should thank God"

Ephesians 5:4 (#2)

"but instead"

The connecting phrase **but instead** introduces a contrast relationship. Sinful acts and thoughts are in contrast to thanksgiving to God. Use a connecting word that indicates a contrast in your language.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:5 (#1)

"unclean"

Here being **unclean** (dirty) is a metaphor for being sinful.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:5 (#2)

"has no inheritance"

Receiving what God has promised believers is spoken of as if it were inheriting property and wealth from a family member. Alternate translation: "will receive nothing" or "has no part" See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:6 (#1)

"with empty words"

Alternate translation: "with words that have no truth in them" or "by speaking words that are not true"

Ephesians 5:6 (#2)

"for"

The connecting word **for** introduces a reason-result relationship. The result is stated first: that the Ephesian believers should not let anyone deceive them with empty words. Then the reason is stated: that the wrath of God will judge those things. Use a phrase that connects a reason to a result, and put them in the order that is most natural in your language.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:6 (#3)

"the wrath of God is coming upon"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **wrath**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "God will certainly punish"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 5:6 (#4)

"the sons of disobedience"

This is an idiom that means, "people who habitually disobey" or "people who are characterized by disobedience" Alternate translation: "those who disobey God"

See: Idiom

Ephesians 5:7 (#1)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that God will judge those people in his wrath. The result is that the Ephesian believers should not become partners with evil men. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:8 (#1)

"because formerly you were darkness"

Just as one cannot see in the dark, so people who love to sin cannot see or understand the things of God. Alternate translation: "because formerly you did not understand anything about God" See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:8 (#2)

"because"

The connecting word **because** introduces a reason-result relationship. The result is stated first (v.7): that the Ephesian believers should not

become partners with evil men. The reason is stated second (v. 8): that the Ephesian believers are no longer darkness, but are now light. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result, using the order that is most natural for your language.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:8 (#3)

"but now {are} light in the Lord"

Just as one can see in the **light**, so people whom God has saved understand how to please God. Alternate translation: "but now you know God and can live for him" See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:8 (#4)

"but"

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. The fact that the Ephesian believers were formerly darkness is in contrast to the fact that they are now light.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:8 (#5)

"Walk as children of light"

To **Walk** on a path is a metaphor for how a person lives his life. Alternate translation: "Live as people who understand what the Lord wants them to do"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:8 (#6)

"as children of light"

God desires us to imitate or follow him since we are his spiritual **children**. Alternate translation: "as God's children who know the truth" or "because you are God's children and see the truth"

See: Simile

Ephesians 5:9 (#1)

"the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth"

Here, **fruit** is a metaphor for "result" or "outcome." Alternate translation: "the result of living in the light is good work, right living, and truthful behavior"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:9 (#2)

"for"

The connecting word **for** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that fruit of the light is goodness and righteousness and truth. The result is that the Ephesian believers should walk as children of light. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:11 (#1)

"do not take part in the unfruitful works of darkness"

Paul speaks of the useless, sinful things that unbelievers do as if they are evil deeds that people do in the dark so no one will see them. Alternate translation: "do not do useless, sinful things with unbelievers"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:11 (#2)

"in the unfruitful works of darkness"

Here Paul is comparing evil actions to an unhealthy tree that produces nothing good. Alternate translation: "actions that do nothing good, useful, or profitable, caused by darkness"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:11 (#3)

"in the unfruitful works of darkness"

The word **darkness** is often used to represent sin. In this instance, these works result from sinful motives. Alternate translation: “deeds that are worthless because they were done from sinful motives”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:11 (#4)

"but rather"

The connecting phrase **but rather** introduces contrast relationship. Participating in the works of darkness is in contrast to exposing them.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:11 (#5)

"expose {them}"

Speaking against the works of darkness is spoken of as bringing them out into the light so that people can see them. Alternate translation: “bring them out into the light” or “uncover them” or “show and tell people how wrong these actions are”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:12 (#1)

"them"

Here, **them** refers to the “sons of disobedience” mentioned in 5:6 and also referred to as “them” in 5:7. If it is unclear who “them” refers to in either place, then use “those who disobey God” or a similar phrase.

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

Ephesians 5:13 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nIt is unknown if this quotation is a combination of quotations from the prophet Isaiah or a quotation from a hymn sung by the believers.

Ephesians 5:13 (#2)

"But"

The connecting word **But** introduces a contrast relationship. Hiding the shameful works of darkness now is in contrast to the light exposing them later.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:13 (#3)

"everything that is revealed is light"

Paul makes this general statement in order to imply that God’s Word shows people’s actions to be good or bad. The Bible often speaks of God’s truth as if it were **light** that could reveal the character of something. Alternate translation: “if you compare everything to what God says, you could know if it is good or bad” See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:14 (#1)

"Therefore"

The connecting word **Therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that their sins will be revealed by the light. The result is that sinners should allow Christ to shine on them. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:14 (#2)

""Awake, O sleeper,"

This could mean: (1) Paul is addressing the believers and using death as a metaphor for their areas of spiritual weakness that they need to become aware of and reject. (2) Paul is addressing unbelievers who need to wake up from being dead spiritually just as a person who has died must come alive again in order to respond. See the UST.

See: Apostrophe

Ephesians 5:14 (#3)**"O sleeper"**

This could mean: (1) Paul is addressing this comment directly to the believers who are reading or hearing the letter. (2) Paul is addressing this comment directly to unbelievers who are not reading or hearing the letter.

See: Apostrophe

Ephesians 5:14 (#4)**"from the dead"**

This expression describes all **dead** people together in the underworld. To arise from among them speaks of becoming alive again and is a metaphor for becoming alive spiritually and living for God. Alternate translation: "from among all those who have died" or "from among those who are spiritually dead"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:14 (#5)**"will shine on you"**

Here, **you** refers to the "sleeper" and is singular.

See: Forms of You

Ephesians 5:14 (#6)**"Christ will shine on you"**

Christ will enable an unbeliever to understand how evil his deeds are and how Christ will forgive him and give him new life, just as light shows what actually is there that the darkness had hid. This also applies to anything that a believer has not yet recognized as sinful. Alternate translation: "Christ will show you what is right"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:15 (#1)

"Watch carefully, therefore, how you walk—not as unwise but as wise"

People who are **unwise** do not guard themselves against sin. Wise people, however, can identify sin and flee from it. Alternate translation: "Therefore, you must be careful to live as a wise person rather than a foolish person"

Ephesians 5:15 (#2)**"therefore"**

The connecting word **therefore** introduces a reason-result relationship. The reason is that Christ has shown the light on him. The result is that the sinner will walk carefully in the light. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:15 (#3)**"but"**

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. Being unwise is in contrast to being wise.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:15 (#4)**"as wise"**

The verb "walk" is left out. You can state this clearly. Alternate translation: "walk as wise"

See: Ellipsis

Ephesians 5:16 (#1)**"redeeming the time"**

Using time wisely is spoken of as if it were **redeeming the time**. Alternate translation: "doing the best things you can with your time" or "using time wisely" or "putting time to its best use"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:16 (#2)**"because the days are evil"**

The word **days** is a metonym for what people do during those days. Alternate translation: “because the people around you are constantly doing all kinds of evil things and the opportunities that you have to do good may become few”

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 5:16 (#3)

"because"

The connecting word **because** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the days are evil. The result is that the believers must redeem the time. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:17 (#1)

"Because of this"

The connecting phrase **Because of this** introduces the result of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the days are evil. The result is that the believers will not be foolish, but understand God's will. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:17 (#2)

"but"

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. Being foolish is in contrast to understanding God's will.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:18 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement: \n\nPaul ends his instructions on how all believers should live.

Ephesians 5:18 (#2)

"And do not get drunk with wine"

Alternate translation: “You should not get drunk from drinking wine”

Ephesians 5:18 (#3)

"in which is recklessness"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **recklessness**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: “which leads to reckless behavior” or “because that will ruin you”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 5:18 (#4)

"Instead, be filled with the Spirit"

Alternate translation: “Instead, you should be controlled by the Holy Spirit”

Ephesians 5:18 (#5)

"Instead"

The connecting word **Instead** introduces a contrast relationship. Being drunk is in contrast to being filled with the Spirit.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:19 (#1)

"psalms and hymns and spiritual songs"

This could mean: (1) Paul is using these words as a merism for “all sorts of songs to praise God” (2) Paul is listing specific forms of music.

See: Merism

Ephesians 5:19 (#2)

"psalms"

These **psalms** are probably songs from the Old Testament book of Psalms that Christians sang.

Ephesians 5:19 (#3)**"hymns"**

These **hymns** are songs of praise and worship that may have been written specifically for Christians to sing.

Ephesians 5:19 (#4)**"spiritual songs"**

This could mean: (1) these are songs that the Holy Spirit inspires a person to sing right at that moment (2) **spiritual songs** and "hymns" form a doublet. They mean basically the same thing, and you could use one word for these instead of two.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 5:19 (#5)**"in your heart"**

Here, **heart** is a metonym for a person's thoughts or inner being. This could mean: (1) they should do this with true motives and sincerity. Alternate translation: "from deep within your being" or "sincerely" (2) they should do this with enthusiasm. Alternate translation: "with all of your being" or "enthusiastically" See the UST.

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 5:20 (#1)**"in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"**

Here, **name** could refer to: (1) Jesus himself. Alternate translation: "because you belong to our Lord Jesus Christ" (2) the authority of Jesus. Alternate translation: "with the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:20 (#2)**"to God, even the Father"**

Alternate translation: "to God, who is our Father"

Ephesians 5:22 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul begins to explain how Christians are to submit themselves to one another ([Ephesians 5:21](#)). He starts with instructions to wives and husbands on how they should act toward each other.

Ephesians 5:23 (#1)**"For"**

The connecting word **For** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the husband is head of the wife in the same way Christ is head of the church. The result is that wives should submit to their husbands. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:23 (#2)**"the head of the wife" - "the head of the church"**

The word **head** here represents the leader.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:23 (#3)**"of the body"**

The church is often referred to as the **body** of Christ.

Ephesians 5:25 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nHere the words **himself** and **he** refer to Christ. The word **her** refers to the church.

Ephesians 5:25 (#2)**"love your wives"**

Here, **love** means that the husband unselfishly does what is best for the wife, unselfishly serving or giving to his wife.

Ephesians 5:25 (#3)**"gave himself up"**

Alternate translation: "allowed people to kill him"

Ephesians 5:25 (#4)**"for her"**

Paul speaks of the assembly of believers as though it were a woman whom Jesus will marry. Alternate translation: "for us"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:26 (#1)**"so that"**The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Christ giving himself up to death is to sanctify the church.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 5:26 (#2)**"he might sanctify her, having cleansed her"**

Paul speaks of the assembly of believers as though it were a woman whom Jesus will marry. Alternate translation: "he might make us holy, having cleansed us"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:26 (#3)**"having cleansed her by the washing of the water with the word"**This could mean: (1) Paul is referring to God making Christ's people clean by the preaching and acceptance of God's **word** in the gospel message and through **water** baptism in Christ. (2) Paul is speaking of God making us spiritually clean from our sins by the message as if God were making our bodies clean by washing them with **water**.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:27 (#1)**"so that"**The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Christ cleansing the church with the word is to present the church to himself as a glorious bride.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 5:27 (#2)**"not having stain or wrinkle"**

Paul speaks of the church as though it were a garment that is clean and in perfect condition. Alternate translation: "not having any defect"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:27 (#3)**"not having stain or wrinkle"**Here, **stain** and **wrinkle** represent the same idea of defect in two ways to emphasize the church's purity. If your language does not have two different words, you can use one word for this.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 5:27 (#4)**"but"**The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. The church having stains and wrinkles of sin is in contrast to the church being holy and blameless.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:27 (#5)**"so that"**The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Christ washing the church is to make the church holy and blameless.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 5:27 (#6)**"holy and blameless"**

Here, **blameless** means basically the same thing as **holy**. Paul uses the two together to emphasize the church's purity. If your language does not have two different words, you can use one word for this.

See: Doublet

Ephesians 5:28 (#1)**"as their own bodies"**

You can state explicitly that people love **their own bodies**. Alternate translation: "as husbands love their own bodies"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 5:29 (#1)**"but he nourishes"**

Alternate translation: "but he feeds"

Ephesians 5:29 (#2)**"but"**

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. Hating one's own body is in contrast to caring for it.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 5:30 (#1)**"because"**

The connecting word **because** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that the church is Christ's body. The result is that Christ cares for the church. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 5:30 (#2)**"we are members of his body"**

Here Paul speaks of the close union of believers with Christ as if they were part of his own **body**, for which he would naturally care.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 5:31 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nThe quotation is from the writings of Moses in the Old Testament.

Ephesians 5:31 (#2)

""

General Information:\n\nThe word **his** refers to a male believer who marries.

Ephesians 5:31 (#3)**"Because of this"**

The connecting phrase **Because of this** introduces the result of a reason-result relationship. In this case, this phrase is part of a quotation from Genesis 2:24 and so the reason is not stated here, but it is stated in Genesis 2:23 that woman was created out of man. The result is that a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife. If it is confusing to not state the reason, you could include a footnote that says, "the reason for this is that woman was created out of man. See Genesis 2:23"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 6:1 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nPaul continues to explain how Christians are to submit themselves to each other. He gives instructions to children, fathers, workers, and masters.

Ephesians 6:1 (#2)**"in the Lord"**

Alternate translation: "because you belong to the Lord" or "as followers of the Lord"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 6:1 (#3)

"for"

The connecting word **for** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that children should do what is right. The result is that children should obey their parents. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 6:1-3 (#1)

""

General Information:\n\nThe command in verse one is plural. Then in verses two and three Paul quotes from the law of Moses. Moses was talking to the people of Israel as though they were one person, so **your** and **you** are singular there. If that does not make sense, you may need to translate them as plurals.

See: Forms of You

Ephesians 6:3 (#1)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of obeying your father and mother is to live well and long on the earth.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:4 (#1)

"do not provoke your children to anger"

Alternate translation: "do not make your children angry" or "do not cause your children to be angry"

Ephesians 6:4 (#2)

"Instead"

The connecting word **Instead** introduces a contrast relationship. Fathers provoking their children to anger is in contrast to raising their children in discipline and instruction.

Ephesians 6:4 (#3)

"raise them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the words **discipline** and **instruction**, you could express the same ideas with verbal forms. Alternate translation: "teach them to become adults by making sure that they know and do what the Lord wants them to do"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:5 (#1)

"fear and trembling"

The phrase **fear and trembling** uses two similar ideas to emphasize the importance of honoring their masters. Alternate translation: "with deep respect"

See: Doublet

Ephesians 6:5 (#2)

"and trembling"

Here, **trembling** is an exaggeration used to emphasize how important it is that slaves obey their masters. Alternate translation: "and deep respect" or "as though you were shaking with fear"

See: Hyperbole

Ephesians 6:5 (#3)

"in honesty of your heart"

Here, **heart** is a metonym for a person's mind or intentions. Alternate translation: "with honesty" or "with sincerity"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 6:5 (#4)

"in honesty"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **honesty**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: “honestly” or “sincerely”

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:5 (#5)

"as to Christ"

To make the meaning of this phrase clear, you may want to include the verb here: “as you obey Christ.”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 6:6 (#1)

"but"

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. Obeying our masters as men-pleasers is in contrast to obeying them because we are slaves of Christ.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 6:6 (#2)

"as slaves of Christ"

Alternate translation: “as though your earthly master were Christ himself”

Ephesians 6:6 (#3)

"from the soul"

Here, **soul** is a metonym for “attitudes” or “intentions.” Alternate translation: “wholeheartedly” or “enthusiastically”

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 6:9 (#1)

"do the same to them"

Here, **the same** refers back to “if he does something good” from ([Ephesians 6:8](#)). Alternate translation: “you also must treat your slaves well” or “just as slaves must do good to their masters, you also must do good to your slaves”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 6:9 (#2)

"You know that the Master, both theirs and yours, is in heaven"

Alternate translation: “You know that Christ is the Master of both slaves and their masters, and that he is in heaven”

Ephesians 6:9 (#3)

"there is no favoritism with him"

Alternate translation: “he judges everyone the same way”

Ephesians 6:10 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement: \n\nPaul gives instructions to make believers strong in this battle we are in for God.

Ephesians 6:10 (#2)

"the force of his strength"

These two words are very similar in meaning. Together, they reinforce each other. See how you translated this phrase near the end of [Ephesians 1:19](#) Alternate translation: “his great power”

See: Doublet

Ephesians 6:11 (#1)

"Put on the whole armor of God, to enable you to stand against the scheming of the devil"

In this metaphor, Paul pictures the spiritual resources that **God** gives to all Christians as a soldier’s **armor**. Alternate translation: “Just as a soldier puts on armor to protect himself from enemy attacks, use all of God’s resources to stand firmly against the devil”

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:11 (#2)**"the scheming"**

Alternate translation: "the tricky plans"

Ephesians 6:12 (#1)**"For"**

The connecting word **For** introduces the reason of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that we are in a struggle against spiritual forces of darkness. The result is that we should put on the whole armor of God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 6:12 (#2)**"blood and flesh"**

This expression refers to people, not to spirits who do not have human bodies. Alternate translation: "human beings"

See: Synecdoche

Ephesians 6:12 (#3)**"but"**

The connecting word **but** introduces a contrast relationship. People made of flesh and blood are in contrast to spiritual forces.

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

Ephesians 6:12 (#4)**"against the world-controllers"**

Here it is implied that **the world-controllers** refers to powerful spiritual beings. Alternate translation: "against the powerful spiritual beings that rule over people"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 6:12 (#5)**"of this darkness"**

Here, **darkness** is a metaphor for things that are evil. Alternate translation: "during this present evil time"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:13 (#1)**"Because of this, put on the whole armor of God"**

Christians should use the protective resources **God** gives them in fighting the devil in the same way that a soldier puts on **armor** to protect himself against his enemies. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:13 (#2)**"Because of this"**

The connecting phrase **Because of this** introduces the result of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that we are in a battle against evil spiritual forces. The result is that we should put on the whole armor of God. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 6:13 (#3)**"so that you may be able to withstand in the evil day"**

The word **withstand** means to successfully resist something. Alternate translation: "so that you may be able to resist when evil attacks you"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:13 (#4)**"so that you may be able to withstand"**

It may be helpful to state explicitly what believers are to **withstand**. Alternate translation: "so that you may be able to withstand the attacks of the devil"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 6:13 (#5)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of putting on the whole armor of God is to be able to withstand the attacks of the spiritual forces of darkness.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:14 (#1)**"Stand, therefore"**

Here the word **Stand** represents taking a position on what is right and true and successfully resisting forces that try to make the believer compromise that position. See how you translated "stand firm" in [Ephesians 6:13](#). "So resist evil"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:14 (#2)**"therefore"**

The connecting word **therefore** introduces the result of a reason-result relationship. The reason is that we believers have put on our spiritual armor. The result is that we will stand and resist the evil spiritual forces. Use a phrase in your language that connects a reason to a result.

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

Ephesians 6:14 (#3)**"having girded up your loins with truth"**

In this metaphor, **truth** is compared to a soldier's belt. Truth holds everything together for a believer just as a belt holds the clothing of a soldier together. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:14 (#4)**"truth"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **truth**, you could express

the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "what is true"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:14 (#5)**"having put on the breastplate of righteousness"**

In this metaphor, **righteousness** is compared to a soldier's **breastplate**. Just as soldiers put on a breastplate to protect themselves from enemy attacks, believers should behave in a righteous way to protect themselves from spiritual attacks. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:14 (#6)**"of righteousness"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **righteousness**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "the right way to live"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:15 (#1)**"having shod your feet with readiness of the gospel of peace"**

In this metaphor, **the gospel of peace** is compared to a soldier's sandals. Just as a soldier wears sturdy footwear to give him solid footing and enable him to march long distances, the believer must have solid knowledge of the gospel of peace and be ready to go where the Lord sends him to proclaim it. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:15 (#2)**"of peace"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **peace**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "that makes everything good between people and God"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:16 (#1)

"In everything take up the shield of the faith"

In this metaphor, faith is compared to a soldier's **shield**. Just as a soldier uses a shield to protect himself from enemy attacks, the believer must use the **faith** that God gives for protection when the devil attacks. See the UST.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:16 (#2)

"of the faith"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **faith**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "that represents how much you trust in the Lord" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:16 (#3)

"the flaming arrows of the evil one"

The attacks of the devil against a believer are like **flaming arrows** shot at a soldier by an enemy.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:17 (#1)

"take the helmet of salvation"

The **salvation** that God gives protects the believer's mind just as a **helmet** protects the head of a soldier.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:17 (#2)

"of salvation"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **salvation**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate

translation: "that represents the fact that God has saved you" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:17 (#3)

"the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"

In this metaphor, God's message is compared to a soldier's **sword**. Just as soldiers use a sword to fight and defeat their enemy, so a believer can use God's message in the Bible to fight against the devil.

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:18 (#1)

"With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit"

Alternate translation: "Pray at all times in the Spirit as you pray and make specific requests"

Ephesians 6:18 (#2)

"to this {end}"

The connecting phrase **to this {end}** marks a goal or purpose relationship. The goal is what was just mentioned: to pray at all times in the Spirit. In order to do that, believers must be watchful and persevere in making requests for all the saints. Alternate translation: "for this reason" or "in order to do that"

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:18 (#3)

"be watchful with all perseverance and requests for all the saints"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **perseverance**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "persevere in being alert, and pray for all God's holy people" or "pray with constant alertness for all the believers" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:19 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement:\n\nIn closing this letter, Paul asks his readers to pray for his boldness in telling the gospel while he is in prison and he says that he is sending Tychicus to comfort them.

Ephesians 6:19 (#2)**"so that a message might be given to me"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you can state this in active form. Alternate translation: "that God might give me the word" or "God might give me the message"

See: Active or Passive

Ephesians 6:19 (#3)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of the believers praying for Paul is to enable him to preach the gospel boldly.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:19 (#4)**"the opening of my mouth"**

This is a metonym for speaking. Alternate translation: "I speak"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 6:20 (#1)**"for which I am an ambassador in chains"**

The phrase **in chains** is a metonym for being in prison. Alternate translation: "because of which I am now in prison"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 6:20 (#2)**"so that in it I may speak boldly, as it is necessary for me to speak"**

The word "pray" is understood from verse 18. Alternate translation: "pray that whenever I teach the gospel, I will speak it as boldly as I should" or "pray that I may speak the gospel as boldly as I should"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

Ephesians 6:20 (#3)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of the believers praying for Paul is to enable him to preach the gospel boldly even though he is in chains.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:20 (#4)**"in it"**

Here, **it** refers back to the "message" in verse 19 that Paul wants to speak. If it would be helpful in your language, you could repeat the word "message" here. Alternate translation: "in my message"

See: Pronouns

Ephesians 6:21 (#1)**"so that"**

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Paul sending Tychicus to Ephesus was to tell the Ephesian believers what was happening to Paul.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:21 (#2)**"brother"**

Paul speaks of Tychicus as if he were a **brother** to all the other believers who were in God's spiritual family. Alternate translation: "fellow believer"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:22 (#1)

"your hearts may be encouraged"

Here, **hearts** is a metonym for people's inner beings. Alternate translation: "he may encourage you"

See: Metonymy

Ephesians 6:22 (#2)

"so that"

The connecting phrase **so that** introduces a goal relationship. The goal or purpose of Paul sending Tychicus to the Ephesians is to encourage their hearts and to let them know what was happening to Paul and his companions.

See: Connect — Goal (Purpose) Relationship

Ephesians 6:23 (#1)

""

Connecting Statement: \n\nPaul closes his letter to the Ephesian believers with a blessing of peace and grace on all believers who love Christ.

Ephesians 6:23 (#2)

"Peace to the brothers"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **Peace**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "May the brothers have a peaceful spirit"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:23 (#3)

"to the brothers"

Paul speaks of the other believers as if they were **brothers** to all of the other believers who were in God's spiritual family. Alternate translation: "to the fellow believers"

See: Metaphor

Ephesians 6:23 (#4)

"love"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **love**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "may you love one another"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:23 (#5)

"with faith"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **faith**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "as you trust in the Lord" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:24 (#1)

"Grace {be} with"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **Grace**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "May God act graciously to"

See: Abstract Nouns

Ephesians 6:24 (#2)

"with incorruptibility"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea behind the word **incorruptibility**, you could express the same idea with a verbal form. Alternate translation: "in a way that no one is able to corrupt" or "so much that no one can make them stop loving him" See the UST.

See: Abstract Nouns