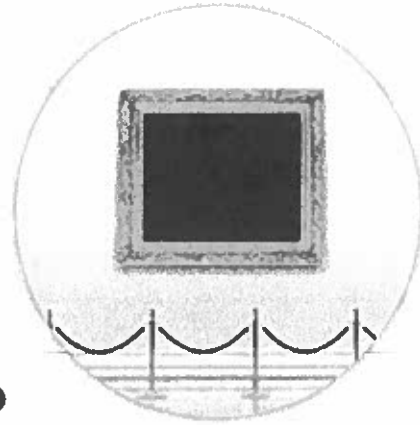


## Introduction

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## Why read this book?

The greatest adventure in life is not an exotic safari, a booming business success, or a love relationship with that perfect someone. Rather, it's discovering the purpose for our lives. This letter answers the question men and women have asked throughout all time: "Why am I here?" The answer may startle you, considering the standard talk-show ideas of our age. It has to do with eternity, making peace with God, and identifying with Christ. Interested? Read on. The adventure is only beginning.

## Who wrote this book?

The apostle Paul.

## When was it written?

Sometime during Paul's imprisonment in Rome, around A.D. 60 to 62.

## To whom was it written and why?

To encourage believers in Ephesus (a city in modern-day Turkey) to think of themselves in a whole new way. Instead of people once involved in idol worship, illicit sex, and foolish philosophies, Paul wanted them to think of themselves as people "in Christ"—people with a radically new identity (2:12–13).

## What to look for in Ephesians:

In this book you'll learn about God's intentions for his people, and you'll gain insight into the nature of the church. Notice the various word pictures describing the church and how Paul stresses the unity of all believers. The last half of the book offers practical ways to live in unity with God and one another.

—From the Quest Study Bible (Zondervan)