

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



PRINCE
OF PEACE
Called to Connect



Farewell

July 15 & 16, 2023

Search “Final Words” in Google and you’ll get the final words of famous people before they died! Pastor Jeff isn’t dying, but he does have some final words for us, including three connected themes, a word about change, and a word of thanks.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: EPHESIANS 3:14-21

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

In Ephesians, Paul provides significant teaching on salvation, reconciliation, grace, and the power of Christ. In Ephesians 3, Paul transitions from these themes into a practical guide for Christian living. To make the transition, Paul refers to his own calling by God and prays for the spiritual strength of the Ephesian church. Pastor Jeff chose the prayer section of Ephesians 3 as the focus of his final message to Prince of Peace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share one or more of the following: a favorite story about Pastor Jeff, something you learned from him, what you will miss most about him, or 3 words you would use to describe him.
- If you were preaching a final message to Prince of Peace, what Scripture passage would you choose as your focus? Why? What are some final thoughts you would share to bid farewell?
- **Faith is more about “here and now” and less about “there and then.”** How do you live out your faith by: loving your enemies, living generously, forgiving freely, serving selflessly, and/or worshiping wholeheartedly? Share a story that highlights what this looks like for you.
- **Love is the central call of the Gospel.** Jeff said he has come to believe that the primary way to love the God we cannot see is by loving the neighbor we can see. What is one practical thing you can commit to doing this week to love God by loving your neighbor?
- **God’s love...and therefore our love... is for all, and all means all.** Jeff said, “There are many things that make me proud to have been affiliated with Prince of Peace these past 15 years, but nothing makes me prouder than the wide, inclusive welcome of this congregation to all people.” What makes you most proud of being affiliated with Prince of Peace? How have you grown in inclusivity on a personal level?

CHALLENGE: Give yourself permission to be your authentic self and to become more and more of the person God created you to be. Allow yourself, and Prince of Peace, to be continually re-formed by the Spirit as we navigate the road ahead.