

# **Heaven on Earth: First Love**

November 28th & 29th

**Speaker:** Dr. Mark Batterson **Scripture:** Ephesians 6:18-24

**Series Overview** 

Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.

#### **Series Discussion Questions**

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

### **Message Overview**

As we end our journey through Ephesians, we return back to where we started — a message of God's GRACE and PEACE. God's GRACE is always at the forefront, and it EXTENDS to wherever we are at. Everyday God's GRACE is needed, and everyday God's PEACE is necessary. Let's complete our journey exploring the goodness of God and His love for His people.

## **Message-Specific Discussion Questions**

Pastor Mark says: "We have a tendency to remember what we should forget and forget what we should remember." What are some ways that we can live fully in the present, and keep a Godly perspective?

Throughout the series, Pastor Mark has repeatedly said, "The only ceiling on your INTIMACY WITH GOD and your IMPACT on the world is DAILY SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES."

- What ceilings have you found to be inhibiting you?
- What spiritual disciplines have you implemented?
- What changes do you need to make to declutter the things in your life that prevent you from a daily spiritual discipline?

Statistics show that we touch our phones on average 2,617 times per day. Social media platforms are part of the reason that people touch their phones so many times. **Discuss a time when you felt encouraged and discouraged opening up social media.** 

In Ephesians 6:23-24 Paul ends his message with grace and peace. How are you going to live this week encompassing God's grace and peace?

## **Practical Application**

Take some time to put away social media this week. Schedule in a time to
meditate, pray, and take notes instead of going through social media.
Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to
NCC Daily, a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse
through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting
throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online in
person to discuss and debrief what you're learning.
Climb the stairs to the Upper Zoom each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at
7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently,
and responding in prayer. Register at <a href="ncc.re/UpperZoom">ncc.re/UpperZoom</a> .