

Series: Ephesians: Our Life In Christ (ONLINE WEEK 5)

Sermon: A Prayer for Us All

**Passage: Ephesians 1:15-23**

Illustration:

Need: The powerful Christian walk is one that moves beyond what we know about God to knowing Him more and more.

**I. A prayer of thanksgiving (1:15-16)**

- Paul is thankful that he is hearing about the Ephesian's continued faith in Jesus. (it's been 5+ years since he was with them)
- Paul is thankful that he is hearing about the Ephesian's acts of love for one another.

**II. A prayer for a deepening knowledge (1:17)**

- "a spirit of wisdom and of revelation" - Paul asks God to give the Ephesians an attitude, governing disposition that see's their lives through what God has said and is revealing.
- "In the knowledge of him" - Paul asks that God will draw them into this new attitude as they grow in their relationship with Him.

**III. A prayer for an enlightened motivation (1:18-23)**

- "having the eyes of your hearts enlightened" - Paul prays that the Ephesians would move beyond what they know about about God & their new life to being motivated because of it.
- "the hope to which He has called you" - the confidence that every believer should have in the promises of God and the personal calling to adoption and new life that is there's from Him.
- "the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints" - this speaks of our great value in the eyes of the God who sees us as His own inheritance.
- "the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe" - God's immeasurable power is available to us in Christ.
  - This power raised Jesus from the dead
  - This power seated Jesus at God's right hand
  - This power sets establishes Jesus as the highest authority
  - This power placed all things under the feet of Jesus
  - This power comes to us a Jesus is given as the head of the church, His body
  - This power fills Jesus as He fills us and all things

**IV. A Prayerful Response**

- "Father, we don't want to just know about You, we want to know You. We want to be moved to live motivated by the confident Hope we have in You who called us, understanding our great value to You, and walking in the unlimited power that is available to us as we live obediently day by day."