

# Pray for Those Who Know God to Know Him Better

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September 10, 2023 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

Paul is writing to \_\_\_\_\_ believers. (v. 15)

Paul prays that those who know God may know him \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 16-18a)

**Three things Paul prays believers will know:**

1. The hope to which he has \_\_\_\_\_ us. (v. 18b)
2. The riches of \_\_\_\_\_ glorious inheritance in the saints. (v. 18c)
3. The immeasurable greatness of his power \_\_\_\_\_ us who believe. (vv. 19-21)

## ***Ephesians 1:15-23***

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## ***Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions***

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**Open:** If God promised to answer any prayer you made on behalf of other believers you know, what things would you ask for?

**Read & Discuss:** Ephesians 1:15-23

1. Paul tells these believers that he does “not cease to give thanks” for them as he prays (v. 16). What makes you thankful for other believers? Why is there value in thanking God for other believers when we pray?
2. In verses 17-18a, what does Paul ask God to do for the Ephesian believers? Why is having godly wisdom, knowledge and enlightenment so important for our lives? What are some other ways we might pray for the spiritual well-being of other believers that Paul prays for here?
3. In the middle of verse 18, Paul mentions three things he prays these believers “may know.”
  - a. First Paul mentions “the hope to which he has called you.” What is this hope? How should knowing “the hope to which He has called” us impact our lives?
  - b. Next Paul speaks of knowing “the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.” What makes us, as believers, a “glorious inheritance”? Why might Paul want us to know this about ourselves?
  - c. Finally, Paul says he wants them to know the same power which raised Christ from the dead (vv. 19, 20) is at work in them. What would be some implications of knowing this?
4. From verses 20-23, list the things Paul adds to his discussion of Christ’s headship that began in verses 9-10, which we discussed last week. What does the fact that the church is Christ’s “body” (v. 23) mean for how we view ourselves in relation to the world?
5. Thinking back to last week, what is the connection between the content of verses 3-14 and the prayer of verses 15-23?

**Apply:** How will what you’ve learned from Paul’s prayer shape the way that you pray for others?

**Pray:** Pray along the lines of Ephesians 1:15-23 for each other and our church family.