

Group Discussion Guide

Week of October 17, 2021

Ephesians 1:15-23 – The Powerful Offensive Gospel

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Was there ever a time in your life when you found Christianity to be offensive or something you had no interest in whatsoever? Describe. What do you think created your distaste for Christianity?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

The gospel - good news of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ - is offensive to many people, but it is a wonderful power to those of us who are saved.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Read – Ephesians 1:15-23

- Let's unpack some of these things Paul was praying for these people...
 - **Verse 17** - *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him*
 - What do you think is “*the spirit of wisdom and revelation*”?
 - How have you experienced this in your relationship with the Lord?
 - **Verse 18** – *that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened*
 - What do you think are “*the eyes of your understanding*”?
 - What does it mean to have “*the eyes of your understanding*”
ENLIGHTENED?
 - How have you experienced this in your relationship with the Lord?

- **Verse 18** - *that you may know... what is the hope of His calling*
 - What do you think is “*the hope of His calling*”?
 - What are some other things that people place their HOPE in?
 - Have you ever placed your hope in something that let you down?
 - Why do you think Paul prayed that people would place their hope in God’s calling on their lives?
 - How have you experienced this HOPE in your walk with the Lord?

- **Verse 18** – *that you may know... what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints*
 - What do you think is “*the glory of His inheritance in the saints*”?
 - How can this inheritance be considered “RICHES”?
 - How have you experienced these RICHES in your relationship with the Lord?

- **Verse 19** – *that you may know... what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe*
 - What do you think is “*the exceeding greatness of His power*”?

Read – Romans 1:16-17 and 1 Corinthians 1:18

- In what ways can the gospel of Jesus Christ be considered... POWER?
- What does Paul say the gospel is to those who are not saved?
- Why do you think the gospel seems foolish to people who aren’t saved?
- Was there ever a time in your life when you thought the gospel was foolish?
- What changed to make you realize it was not foolish?

Read – 2 Corinthians 2:15-16

- What is Paul explaining in these verses?
- How does it help us to understand the gospel message may be considered “stinky” to unbelievers?

TAKING IT HOME

- How can you be more intentional about sharing the gospel?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS