



## Unbounded: Paul's Faith from Prison

Ephesians 1:15-23

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### 1. That God May Give You the Spirit of... (1:15-18)

- A. Revelation – God reveals Himself to those created in His image
  - a. Someone before something
  - b. Through the Holy Spirit
  - c. Fully revealed in Jesus Christ (John 1:1-4, Colossians 1:15-20, Hebrews 1:1-3)
- B. Knowledge – to learn about something
  - a. Head knowledge
  - b. Necessary information
- C. Wisdom – to apply knowledge
  - a. Difference between good and bad
  - b. Difference between right and wrong
- D. Understanding – to have deep insight, discernment
  - a. Difference between good, better, best
  - b. Living in gray not black and white
- E. Obedience – to follow
  - a. Our knowledge of God is 'revealed' in our doctrine/decisions
  - b. Our love of God is 'revealed' in our actions/obedience
  - c. The fruit of our actions, 'reveal' the truthfulness of our doctrine

### 2. That You May Know... (1:18-22)

- A. Hope – Life-Shaping Certainty
  - a. Our knowledge of eternity...changes our understanding of the present...leading us to act in the present consistent with our future
- B. Inheritance – The Fullness of God...
  - a. 1:3-10 - "Every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places..."
  - b. 3:16-19 - "The riches of his glory..."
- C. Power – ...who fills all in all
  - a. worked in Christ
  - b. life out of death
  - c. 3:20-21 - "Now to him who is able..."

*God's plan is to resurrect from death a people who love him and resemble him because he lives inside them...filled with all the fullness of God!*

**Discussion:**

Part One:

1. In what areas of your life do you find clear guidance from your knowledge, wisdom, and understanding? Give a specific example of how its lead you to obedience.
2. Are there areas in your life where your lack of knowledge ultimately led/leads to disobedience?
3. Are there areas in your life where you willfully/consistently choose to act in disobedience against your wisdom and understanding? What are the results?
4. How has the fruit of your actions guided you to confirm your doctrine/decisions? Has it ever guided you to question your doctrine/decisions?

Part Two:

1. How does knowing your eternal destiny give you hope in present circumstances? Give a specific example of how hope has led you to act in the present.
2. If you look at all the blessings Paul lists in Eph 1 and 3, which have been blessings for you during specific times of crisis, lack of understanding, and/or failure?
3. How have experienced God's power in your life in a way that has brought "glory in the church and in Christ Jesus"?