



Ephesians - Who Are You? (Ephesians 1)

Who are you? If you had to choose any object to describe who you are what would it be?

Read: Ephesians 1:1-16. As you are reading write down a list of what God says about who you are.

As you look over those words, do you feel that these words describe you? Which ones do you embrace, or reject? Why?

Read: Proverbs 16:9, Isaiah 48:17

What difference does it make knowing that God has a plan for your life?

Discuss this quote:

Whatever you do, He will make good of it. But not the good He had prepared for you if you obeyed Him.

-CS Lewis

As the Holy Spirit is writing this letter through Paul He calls the Ephesian church saints, and says they are faithful, even though in Revelation 2:4-5 John paints a different picture. He wasn't speaking to who they were, he was speaking to who they were called to be. What does it mean to you that God believes in you?

How do we embrace that God says about us, while also maintaining humility as a follower of Christ?

Take time to read and discuss the following quote:

God's passion for his glory is the essence of his love to us... God's love for us is not mainly his making much of us, but his giving us the ability to enjoy making much of him forever. In other words, God's love for us keeps God at the center. God's love for us exalts his value and our satisfaction in it. If God's love made us central and focused on our value, it would distract us from what is most precious — namely, himself. Love labors and suffers to enthrall us with what is infinitely and eternally satisfying: God. Therefore, God's love labors and suffers to break our bondage to the idol of self and focus our affections on the treasure of God.

- John Piper

How is God getting the glory He deserves good for us?

Read: Ephesians 1:17-23

This is a prayer that Paul prayed over the Ephesian church, and it is a prayer that is often prayed during LifePoint's services. As we close out the night, walk through this passage and pray this over your LifeGroup and our church.

Pray:

- 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,**
- 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;**
- that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,**
- 19 and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.**

Thank God that He:

- 22 And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**