

Ephesians 1:15-23
Hope, Inheritance, Power



Where we've been so far.

- **Week 1 – Love, the dominant theme.**
 - **God's love for us, our love for each other and Jesus Christ.**
The consequences of leaving our first love.
- **Week 2 – We have every spiritual blessing in Christ.**
 - **We are joint heirs with Christ who, by virtue of simple belief, have been given glorious riches.**
 - **We are Christ's heritage or inheritance.**
- **Week 3 – Hope, Inheritance, Power**
 - **Knowing Christ more intimately. What do we think and believe about God?**

Matthew 11:28-30

28“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” (NASB)

Ephesians 1:15 - 23

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 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, 18 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, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that 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 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. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.- NASB

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen. (NASB)

Paul's Prayers in Ephesians

Ephesians 1:15 - 21	Ephesians 3:14-21
God may give the Spirit of Wisdom and knowledge.	Know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge.
Having the eyes of our heart enlightened.	Christ might dwell in our heart by faith.
That we know the hope to which we are called.	Know the depth and breadth of His love.
Know the surpassing greatness of His power.	Be Strengthened with power in the inner man

Ephesians 1:15-23 - Hope, Inheritance, Power

- **What do you think is the current state of Biblical knowledge or understanding within Fellowship Bible Church? Around the world? On what information do you base that conclusion?**

Tozer vs. Lewis

- **What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. – A.W. Tozer**
- **I read in a periodical the other day that the fundamental thing is how we think of God.**

By God Himself, it is not! How God thinks of us is not only more important, but infinitely more important. Indeed, how we think of Him is of no importance except in so far as it is related to how He thinks of us.

– C.S. Lewis

BLOGS

Tozer vs. Lewis: What's the Most Important Thing about Us?

JUSTIN TAYLOR — JUNE 4, 2016

A. W. Tozer:

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/tozer-vs-lewis-whats-the-most-important-thing-about-us/>

Trinitarian Comparison

Ephesians 1 – Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

Verse 3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse 17 - God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory

Verse 7 - In Him (Christ) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses

Verse 20 – which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead

Verse 3 – spiritual blessings
Verse 13 - sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise

Verse 17 – spirit of wisdom

Ephesians 1:15 - 16

- **Ephesians 1:15** For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, **16** do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; (NASB)
- **How does our culture define love? How does God?**
 - **Matthew 5:39 – 46 – Love your enemies and pray for those who use you.**
 - **Mark 12:29 - 31 – Love God / Love People**
 - **1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 13 – Love does not seek its own.**
- **God's love loves when people don't return that love.**
- **Does the view of another's faith cause us to worship in praise and prayer?**

Ephesians 1:17 – 18a

- **Ephesians 1:17-18a that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know (NASB)**
- **Does “spirit” refer to the Holy Spirit?**
 - **The Holy Spirit will lead or teach us truth. John 14:26; 16:13**
 - **The natural man doesn’t accept the things of the Spirit of God. They must be spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14-15**

Ephesians 1:18b – 19

- Ephesians 1:18b-19 - 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 surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might (NASB)
- What is our hope?
 - A secured eternity in Christ. I am saved. Ephesians 1:3-6, John 3:16
 - Future hope of glory. I will be saved. Ephesians 1:11-12
- What is our calling?
 - As a church we are called to be holy and blameless in Him.
 - How is this accomplished?

Ephesians 1:18b – 19

- **What is our calling?**
 - **As a church we are called to be holy and blameless in Him. How is this accomplished?**
 - **Positionally we are already holy and blameless in Him.**
 - **The call of Christ is to Himself and then He does a work in us, for His purpose. 2 Timothy 1:9 - 12**
 - **It will be true of us physically when we see Him. 1 John 3:2-3**

Ephesians 1:18b – 19

- **What is the hope of our calling? Ephesians 1:18**
- **As you grow in faith is your sin nature getting weaker? What is happening to your understanding of sin?**
 - **Romans 7:24 - 24 - Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? When did Paul say this?**
 - **1 Timothy 1:15 - It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.**
- **What did Paul say about himself at the end of his life?**
 - **1 Timothy 1:12 - 17**

Ephesians 1:18b – 19

- Ephesians 1:18b-19 - 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 surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might (NASB)
 - What are the riches of His glory of His inheritance in the saints?
 - We are!

Ephesians 1: 19 - 23

- **Ephesians 1:19-23 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might** 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (NASB)
- **What does it mean that greatness of His power is toward us who believe?**
- **To live a holy and blameless life we have the same power available that raised Christ from the dead.**

Ephesians 1: 19 - 23

- **Where does the power of the resurrection in our lives come from?**
 - **The Holy Spirit**
 - **Ephesians 1:13 - 14**
 - **Philippians 3:10**
 - **John 21:25**
 - **And many more!**
- **Are you getting the picture? That is the power available to us. Yet I can't even trust him to handle my finances, or my marriage, or my kids, or my health, or you name it. In Philippians 3:10, Paul wants the Philippians not just to know him but also the power of his resurrection. It takes more faith to know the power of his resurrection than to know him in the sense of meeting him as one's Savior.** - Dave Anderson, Position and Condition: An Exposition of the Book of Ephesians (p. 38).

Ephesians 1:15 - 23 Hope, Inheritance, Power

- **Romans 8:11 – 13 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.12 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**
- **We are not utilizing and accessing this power until we “get out of the boat”.**

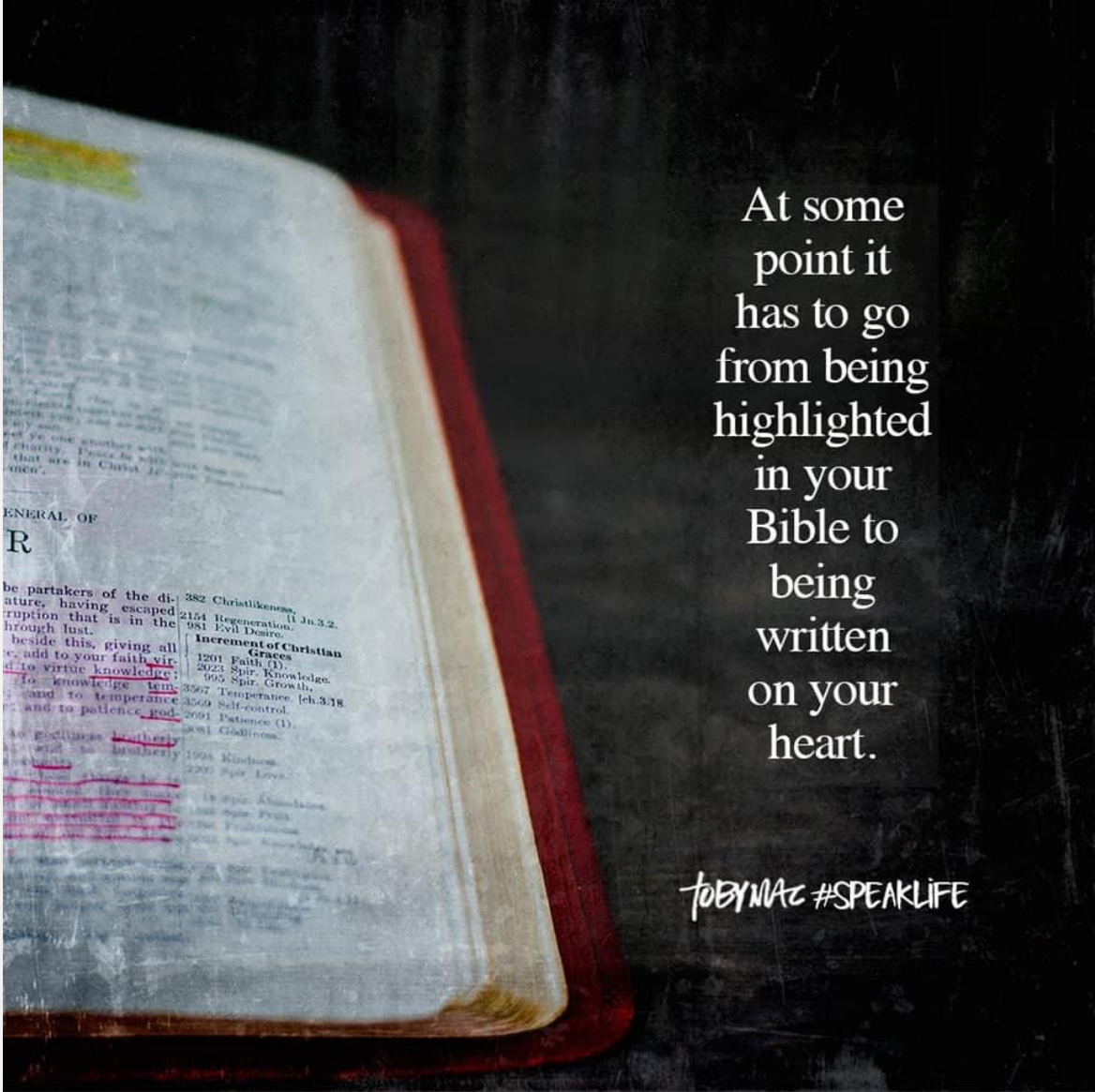
Ephesians 1: 19 - 23

- Ephesians 1:19-23 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who **believe**. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (NASB)
- What is our idea of God at FBC? What is the most important thing about us?

If believers look merely to what they see God doing in their own lives now, they may easily underestimate God's power, not least because it is manifest in cruciform love.

Max Turner, "Ephesians," in New Bible Commentary: 21st Century Edition

Ephesians 1:15 - 23 The Hope of His Calling



At some
point it
has to go
from being
highlighted
in your
Bible to
being
written
on your
heart.

TOBYMAC #SPEAKLIFE

James 1:22-27

²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶ If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.