

The Church... A *Master* Planned Community
Amenities, Privileges & Customer Support (Ephesians 1:15-23)
Small Group Study Questions for the week of Feb 8-14

GETTING STARTED

I think generally speaking, Americans tend to be very independent people. We try to do things ourselves and not lean on outside help. Take a few minutes in your group and share why this is and how this attitude could impact our prayers?

DIGGING DEEP

Read through Ephesians 1:15-23 together as a group

1. Think for a moment about what people usually pray for. When someone offers a prayer of thanks what are the things mentioned most often?
2. What can we learn from v.15-16 about what Paul was thankful for and how that is different from our common prayers?
3. According to v.17, how can we get to know God better? Why do you think he chose “wisdom and revelation” instead of saying “knowledge and understanding”?
4. Based on your experience, what advice would you give to a newer follower of Jesus who wants to know God better?
5. From v.18 and 19, what insights does Paul want the Ephesians to have? Why do you feel he uses the phrase “eyes of your heart may be enlightened” instead of a more everyday phrase?
6. How would you describe the “hope” and “glorious inheritance”? How might a deeper awareness of these truths influence us today?
7. In v.19, how does Paul describe the power he wants us to know? Are there any conditions placed on, or connected to this power?
8. From v.19-21, what does Paul compare, or liken, this power to? In v.18 he mentions our hope, our inheritance, and power, but spends five verses telling us about power. Why do you think this is so significant to the Ephesian church? What difference could this make for our lives as Christ-followers today?
9. What can we learn about the church in v.22-23?
10. What is the practical significance of knowing Jesus has been appointed head of the Church? In other words, how should this truth influence how we organize and implement “church”?
11. Do you feel Paul’s description of the as “Christ’s “body” is a helpful picture for us? Why/why not?

A MATTER OF PRAYER

12. How might this truth of ‘God’s power made available to us’ change the way you do things or pray this week?
13. Spend some time as a group praying the prayer in v.15-19 for one another and for your friends and loved ones.

Next Week: Ephesians 2:1-10