

## Table Discussion Guide

**Week 2** - Ephesians 1:15-23

### ***Discussion Opener***

Did you set any goals coming into the New Year? If so, how has that gone?

### ***Ephesians Background - Part 2***

Paul does not appear to address a particular crisis among the believers in Ephesus, but he does write into a culturally chaotic, temptation-laden environment in which his implied purpose is to instruct and encourage Ephesian believers in their calling to unity as the Body of Christ, both Jew and Gentile, and in their growing in Christian maturity. Today's discussion will focus on

### ***Discussion Time***

We are going to walk through Ephesians 1 verses 15-23. We will stop at each section and discuss a doctrine or principle from that section.

### ***Read***

Read Ephesians 1:15-23 out loud as a group

### ***Verses 15-16***

Take a look at verse 15 & 16 and answer the following question:

1. Prayer: What would it look like to be grateful for and pray for others in our group?

### ***Verses 17-18***

Take a look at verse 17 & 18 and answer the following question:

2. What does the intention and content of Paul's prayer here tell us about what we should pray for?

### ***Verses 19-20***

Many Christians do not know this power — or they only know it from a distance. God wants resurrection life to be *real* in the life of the believer. Charles Spurgeon said: "The very same power which raised Christ is waiting to raise the drunkard from his drunkenness, to raise the thief from his dishonesty, to raise the Pharisee from his self-righteousness, to raise the Sadducee from his unbelief."

Take a look at verse 19-20 and answer the following question:

3. With this mighty power available to us, there never needs to be a "power shortage" in the Christian life. What ways could you use some 'power' when it comes to your faith and life?

### **Verses 21-23**

Take a look at verse 21-23 and answer the following question:

4. Focus on this: “(*Jesus is*) Far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.” What does this mean for us and the leaders/systems we submit ourselves to today?

### **Prayer**

Pray as a group to close.

