

## ***Open Our Eyes!***

Ephesians 1:15-20

### **Paul's Thanksgiving (vs. 15-16)**

*<sup>15</sup>For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.*

### **Paul's Prayer (vs. 17-23)**

*<sup>17</sup>I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.*

Paul prayed that the Holy Spirit would grant us:

- The ministry of WISDOM—The Spirit helps us to understand more deeply that which we already know.
- The ministry of REVELATION—The Spirit helps us to see that which was there all along in the Scriptures but we just never saw it there before.
- To the end that we might KNOW GOD better

*<sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know...*

Related passages: 2 Corinthians 4:6, Philippians 3:7-10

**And now, Paul prays for wisdom and revelation in three specific ways:**

*...the HOPE to which he has called you...*

Related passage: 1 Corinthians 15:7

*...the RICHES of his glorious inheritance in his holy people...*

Related passages: Ephesians 1: 7-8, Exodus 19:15; 1 Peter 2:9-10a, Romans 11:33; 1 John 3:1

<sup>19</sup> *...and his incomparably great POWER (dunamis) for us who believe. That power (energeian) is the same as the mighty strength (energeken) <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms...*

- Dunamis—Available Power
- Energeo—Power on Display

### **Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion**

1. What is a recent example of the Holy Spirit granting you wisdom and/or revelation? (review the above descriptions)
2. Based on the context of Ephesians 1, what is the hope of our calling?
3. How does it impact you to know that we are part of God's glorious inheritance—His reward for a job very well done?
4. What thoughts/feelings are stirred when you realize the 10,000 atomic bombs that went off in the spiritual realm at the resurrection and ascension of Christ and the seating of His Church in the heavenly realms?