

# Ephesians 1:15-23

## “Enlightened”

Pastor Mark Chua

*Subject:* Paul's Prayer for Believers

*Object:* Know Christ (more deeply)

### A. Paul's Praise (15-16)

#### 1. The reason for Paul's prayer

##### a. 2 defining characteristics of Christians/Christ-following Church

i. faith in the Lord Jesus

ii. love for all the saints (love for other believers)

1. *John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*

##### b. Paul's attitude towards the Church (other believers)

i. Thanksgiving

ii. Prayer

1. Continual prayer for other Christians

### B. Paul's Prayer (17-19)

#### 1. Paul prays for a *spirit of wisdom and revelation*: distinctly spiritual request

a. Paul's primary prayer for believers, in the midst of all the other needs/desires, is that they would *know Jesus more deeply*.

b. What happens when God gives us a *spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him*?

i. When we *know* God, our eyes are opened to great truths about our relationship with Him (18):

1. *the hope of His calling*

2. *the riches of the glory of His inheritance*

3. *the exceeding greatness of His power*

### C. God's Power (20-23) *What power is fueling this confident prayer?*

#### 1. The power that raised Christ from the dead (20)

#### 2. Christ's position: (the authority of Christ) (20)

a. *Eph. 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*

b. *2 Corinthians 15: 24-25 Then the end will come, when He hands over the kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power. 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet*

#### 3. Christ's power and authority in the Church (22-23)