

# EPHESIANS

## A Prayer for Knowledge and Power

### Lesson #2, Ephesians 1:12-22

(Discussion Group Leaders)

---

- I. Christians often pray for sicknesses, finances, jobs, and things related to this temporary life. Yet, when the Apostle Paul prays in Eph. 1:15-19 he emphasizes what is eternal and what causes spiritual growth. How can we apply what we learn from the content of Paul's prayer?
  
- II. In Eph. 1:16 the Apostle Paul tells the Ephesians he ". . .does not cease giving thanks for you. . ." Examine your own prayer life. Are your prayers full of thanks? What kinds of things are you thankful for and how should thankfulness play a part in your prayer life?
  
- III. The Apostle Paul in vs. 17-19 prays for "*a spirit of wisdom,*" a spirit of "*revelation in the knowledge of Him,*" that "*the eyes of your heart may be enlightened,*" "*so that you know the hope of His calling,*" so that you may know "*what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,*" and so that you know "*what is the surpassing greatness of His power towards us who believe.*"
  - A. What do all the phrases above have in common? What do those phrases teach us about what we should prioritize in our prayer life?
  - B. Think of your own prayer life and the prayers requests you hear from others; do they match up with what Paul prayed for? If not, why not?
  - C. What does a prayer life that mainly focuses on what is earthly and temporal, i.e., food, health, possessions, and finances, instead of what is spiritual and eternal, tell us about a person's heart desires?
  
- IV. The last thing the Apostle Paul prays for in vs. 19 is that we might know "*the surpassing greatness of His power towards us who believe.*" The Apostle Paul then spends the rest of Eph. 1, all of Eph. 2, and half of Eph. 3 illustrating this last request. What does that teach us about its importance to our lives as believers?

#### Prayer Focus

- Spend some time giving thanks to God for what He is doing in the lives of those at Anchor Bible Church.
- Pray that the saints at Anchor Bible Church would understand, gain wisdom from, be enlightened by, know experientially the hope of their calling, their glorious inheritance, and God's power towards them.
- Pray that God would help those at Anchor Bible Church to know how to live upon the power of God directed towards them.