

WHO YOU ARE

a study of ephesians

“YOU ARE STRONG”

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INTRODUCTION

After spending some time praising God for who He is and what He has provided for His church in Christ, and WHO WE ARE in Christ...the Apostle Paul switches gears and begins praying for the church, that the eyes of our hearts may be opened what we have received in Christ and who we are in Him: strong in hope, worth and power. This passage is one of the most beautiful prayers in the entire Bible concerning Christ's intention for His church.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Ephesians 1:15-23. Focus on v15-16. What is your prayer life like? Do you “practice” prayer regularly? For whom do you pray? Who have you stopped praying for...that you want to start praying for again? What is one BIG prayer that God has answered recently?
2. Read v17 again. Is getting to know God better a TRUE PRIORITY of your life? If yes, how do you do that? If your honest answer is no, then how might you make this (“getting to know Him better”) more of a priority?
3. Read v18, then re-read Ephesians 1:3-14 (since that is the hope to which we are called). Which of those truths give you the most hope in your life?
4. Why do you think it is easy (yet also risky) to anchor your hope to things other than Jesus?
5. Read v18-19. What gets in the way of finding our worth/value/identity in how God sees us?
6. Read v19-23. When have you experienced God's power in your own life or seen it at work in someone else's life?
7. Does the Holy Spirit sit on the shelf in your life, unused, or do you actively tap into His power each day? How does that impact your life?
8. When you are weak, God says that's where His power is the strongest. (See 2 Corinthians 12:9) Where do you feel weak today? What is one way you can put yourself in a position where you need God's power?

COMMIT TO MEMORY

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Ephesians 1:18-19

PRAYER CHALLENGE

1. Pray **Ephesians 1:15-23** over your life, and the lives of your family members/close friends every day this week.
2. Share prayer requests, and commit to praying for one another until you next meet.