



THE CAMPUS CHURCH
LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND PEOPLE

One

Studies in Ephesians - A model prayer

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit^[1] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ 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. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. Ephesians 1:15-23

Observations

- For this _____ (vs. 15)
- I heard about your _____ in the Lord Jesus and your _____ for all God's people. (vs. 15)
- I have not stopped giving thanks for you, _____ you in my _____. (Vs. 16)

When someone says "prayer works" it indicates that they have missed the point of prayer. Those people get very disillusioned when they don't get a "yes" answer from God. If someone prays and they don't get the answer they want, would they conclude prayer doesn't work? Jesus invites us to ask him for things, but prayer is not so much about getting things from God. Rather it is about aligning our will with His will.

The Big Idea of Paul's Prayer – _____ Ephesians 1:17

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 9:10

4 Types of Revelation (How God makes himself known to us)

General or Natural – Psalm 119 says, the heavens declare the glory of God.

Scriptural – What has been revealed about God in the Bible.

Incarnational – What do we learn about God through his Son, Jesus. Hebrews 1 tells us Jesus is the exact representation of God.

Illumination of the Holy Spirit – What truths about God does the Holy Spirit reveal or make clear to us? John 16 says he will guide us into all truth. But note that all illumination of the Holy Spirit will always be in harmony with the other 3 types of revelation.

Three things Paul prays for

1. To know the _____ of our _____

Romans 8:29-32

2 Timothy 1:9-10

2. To grab hold of the _____ of our _____ through Jesus.

Think what this means. Jesus cashed checks out of a boundless account. Grudges didn't corrode him. Despair didn't control him. Mood swings couldn't touch his joy. His conviction was bullet proof. He was the Fort Knox of faith. And when we give our hearts to him, he hands us the check book. Max Lucado

3. To know the _____ of His _____

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.
Philippians 4:13