



ENGAGE GUIDE

SUNDAY'S SERMON // SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 EPHESIANS 1:15-23 // DISCERNMENT, HOPE, AND POWER

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Use these questions in your community (family, life group, ABF, etc.) to apply this sermon in your life.

1. Read Ephesians 1:15-23. Verse 15 starts, "For this reason," making reference to 1:3-14 and our identity in Christ. What exactly does your "identity in Christ" look like? How does this differ from how the world defines us?
2. How does your understanding of "identity" affect your attitude and actions?
3. What does it take to be thankful for someone who challenges or threatens me?
4. Does being thankful only apply to what I see in believers? Or do I need to do the same with unbelievers? After all, Paul was talking about the church.
5. What defines a "biblical" prayer according to Ephesians 1? Are there other texts that add to this thought? What can we do to change our private and community prayers to match Paul's example of prayer that leads to "knowing God, hoping and living in His power"?
6. How do we pull off "praying always ... without ceasing" (vs. 16; also I Thessalonians 5:16-18)?
7. Is it necessary to ask God for His power? Or do we already have it but fail to live in it?
8. Pray as you close reflecting on Ephesians 1 and praying for needs in your *Oikos*.

NEXT SUNDAY // SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 EPHESIANS 2:1-7

SCRIPTURE: READING ABOUT GOD

Take time to read and become familiar with this passage before hearing it preached next Sunday.

- What words were used/repeated/emphasized in this passage?
- Where else in Scripture are these words described/illustrated?
- How does this passage describe God?
- In your own words, summarize this passage, trying to identify the main theme.

PRAYER: COMMUNICATING WITH GOD

Allow your responses to these questions to affect your prayers this week for...

- Yourself
- The Church
- Your *Oikos*