

Prayer Theme: Ephesians 1:15-23

Leaders:

- Select a night to go through these prayers together as a group. The goal is to spend 45 minutes in prayer – 5 min in the theme verses and about 10 minutes for each section.
- A 2 hour small group timeline (suggested) could be: 10 min greeting/talking, 30 min small group questions discussion, 45 min prayer, 35 min accountability
- Introduce the time of prayer as an *opportunity for growing in prayer*. It is not designed only for those who are comfortable, but for those less comfortable to join in and pray out loud with the group.
- Mention the fact that by praying through Scripture, we can have confidence that we are praying God's own heart for us personally and for his Church

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

- Read the passage together and spend the first few minutes praying about anything that comes to mind from reading the passage.

Give thanks to God for someone specific (v. 15-16)

- As a group, read Philemon 1:4-7
- Express thanks to God for his attributes and his character
- Thank God for someone who has helped you grow as a disciple and pray for them
- Thank God for the ministry he is doing at Doxa and pray for people within Doxa

Ask God for knowledge of him and hope in him (v. 17-18)

- As a group, read Philippians 3:7-11 and Colossians 1:21-23
- Do you lack hope as a Christian? Ask for God to restore it as you consider the gospel
- Consider opening your hands in a receiving posture as you ask for increasing knowledge of God through his Word, by his Spirit

Ascribe to God his immeasurable greatness, power, glory and authority (v. 19-23)

- As a group, read Daniel 7:13-14, Psalm 145:1-9, Matthew 28:16-20
- Prayers of ascription focus our hearts and minds on God. They often start with "You are" or "You have..."
- Praise God for his greatness and your smallness, his power to save and your need of him
- Dwell on the saving acts of God in Christ, and turn that into prayers of praise

Pray for Doxa to be growing in prayer together

- Pray for any ministry or leader who comes to mind
- Pray for the church's unity, centered on the gospel
- Pray for the preaching to bear great fruit, in salvation as well as growth of believers
- Pray for your own small group to develop deep community as you grow together in the Lord