

God, Open Our Eyes!

Ephesians 1:15-23

Pastor Scott Lehr

Paul prays that we would not just know our identity but that we would experience it. It is one thing to know information, it is another for that information to get into your heart and change the way you experience life.

Pray, God open our eyes...

1. ...so we can _____ you.
2. ...to experience your _____ of _____.
3. ... to see the _____ of our _____.
4. ... to see your _____.

For Small Group discussion & application this week:

Based on your personal time in Ephesians 1:15-23 this week, what did God teach you? Read Paul's prayer together again with those in your Small Group and share your personal insight before discussing points from the message. (Refer back to last week's Small Group Study Guide at the "Looking ahead" section for questions that guide your personal study).

What was one big takeaway from the message that you did not identify individually? What is your plan to apply, or put into practice, that truth?

How does this prayer by Paul challenge your personal prayer life?

What can you learn about praying for others from Paul's prayers?

Looking ahead: Sunday, September 26, take a closer look at Ephesians 2:1-10.
Be sure to get a copy of the Ephesians Scripture Journal available on campus.

Read this passage each day this week, looking for something different each day (a key word, new thought about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit, a promise to claim, a sin to confess) underline, highlight or make notes in your bible or Scripture Journal.

Here is some additional help as you study this passage.

Glance back at 1:19-20. What parallels do you see between 1:19-20 and 2:4-6?

What does Paul mean when he says we have been "made alive," "raised" and "seated" with Christ (vv. 5-6)?

What do you learn about God's grace from 2:8-10?

When Paul says that our salvation is not from ourselves (vv. 8-9), is he saying that we play no role in our salvation? Explain.

Does verse 10 contradict verses 8-9? Explain.

Reflect on how or when it is difficult for you to be a recipient of God's grace. Journal on each of the areas that come to mind. Comment on why you think receiving God's grace might be difficult for you.