

Praying with Paul

Ephesians 1:15-23

What things typically prompt you to pray? What do you pray about (mostly)? Why?

Read Ephesians 1:15-23

Giving thanks for...

What does Paul give thanks for, and why?

What does this tell us about what Paul values?

What kinds of things do you normally give thanks for?

How could the gospel shape your thanksgiving more?

Praying for...

What does Paul ask God to give the Ephesians in v17?

Is this something they already have or not? Explain your answer...

Verses 18 and 19 are expanding on the big idea of verse 17 – they explain what it means to know God better through God's Spirit imparting wisdom and revelation. It means to have the eyes of your heart enlightened (to have spiritual insight) to know...
=> *Write out the three things Paul wants them to know in your own words.*

How does 'the hope to which he has called you' relate to what comes before and after this passage in the letter?

What does Paul mean by God's glorious inheritance in his holy people?
Why is this important for us to know?

How does Paul help us grasp the incomparable nature of God's power?

How is God's power at work in us?

Do you think of God working powerfully in you? Why / why not?

Reflection

What's the problem with letting our circumstances (or what's happening to people around us) be the only thing that prompts us to pray?

How can you let the gospel shape your prayer life more?

Spend some time praying for each other using Paul's prayer as a guide...