

## Ephesians 1:15-18 "Going deeper in prayer"

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Proposition: why and how Paul prayed for Christians who were doing well

Notice the pattern.

- a) Paul talks to them about \_\_\_\_\_, then he talks to Him about \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***Ephesians 1:15-18 New International Version (NIV)***

***<sup>15</sup> For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup> 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,***

- b) Paul prays for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and eyes to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- c) The Hope of your calling is \_\_\_\_\_

What did Jesus say in John 14:1-4?

You read Matthew 24 again at home this week and recognise the days in which we live.

### ***1 John 3:2-4 (NIV)***

***<sup>2</sup> Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.***

## For Further study in small groups

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Mixer: In John 14 the Greeks suggests that the room that he has made for you in heaven is made 'just for you' and it is huge. You have the whole mansion and the universe to play in but what would you like in your room?

1. Did God speak to you or impact you in some way through Sunday's message?
2. When have you recently spoken to someone about the Lord or Christian living and they just didn't get it?  
How often would you quickly then take those people to the Lord in prayer after those conversations?
3. Paul had heard the good reports about the church at Ephesus. Have you heard good reports about WCBC or its members?
4. Why pray continually for a church that is doing so well?
5. How would you define what Paul was praying for when he prayed for
  - a) Wisdom
  - b) Revelation
  - c) That their eyes might be enlightened
6. Pastor Russell shared the story of the JW's who received the truth, it only got through their blindness *after* he had prayed. Do any of you have a similar story?
7. What has been your experience of John 8:32?
8. How does/ or could the "Hope of our calling – heaven" affect how we view the trials and disappointments of a day?
9. Why is it that even some Christians live as unbelievers; ie I won't be happy until.....?
10. True or false "if you are not happy today, you won't be happy through a change in location, vocation or possession!"
11. Pray for each other that we will use this vapour of time here on earth to make a difference for His glory.

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