

When Words Are Not Enough

Ephesians 1:15-23

Main Idea

Prayer is our pathway into a powerful relationship with God.

v 15-16a: Paul unceasingly thanks God for the believers':

- _____
- _____ for all God's people

v 16b-19a: Paul prays for the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to believers to know:

- We have a firm hope for a bright, eternal future because God has called us to be His people
- As God's people, we are His glorious inheritance
- God has used His great power for our benefit

v 19b-23: Paul describes how God has used His power to benefit His people

- By raising Christ from the dead and seating Him at His right hand
- By giving Jesus victory and authority over all spiritual powers
- By giving this triumphant Jesus to the church as its head

Spiritual realities can only be grasped through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works through the prayers of God's people.

Application

- Thank God for the faith and love of the believers He's placed in your life
- Ask God to give them a deeper awareness of the hope, worth, and power they have access to in Him (and while you're at it, why not ask the same thing for yourself?)
- Read God's Word regularly, and ask the Holy Spirit to give you insight into what you've read
- Meditate on God's powerful acts of exalting Jesus and saving you and what they mean for your daily life and eternal hope

Discussion Questions

- What role does prayer play in your relationship with God?
- Paul's prayer focuses on believers knowing three main things: the hope we have in God, how valuable we are to Him, and His great power at work on our behalf. Which of these three have you experienced in a meaningful way? Which do you think God wants you understand more fully?