

Ephesians 1:15~23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great Might that He worked in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 3:14~19

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Paul's Two Prayers for Ephesians: Ephesians 1:15~22 and Ephesians 3:14~18

1. In Paul's prayer in Ephesians chapter 1:15~22, what is the first thing that Paul asks for the church of Ephesians?
2. What do you think Paul means by "the Father of Glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him"?
3. What does Paul mean by "the knowledge of Him"? Whom does this "him" refer to?
4. How often and how much do you pray for this for yourself and for other believers you know? Why, or why not?
5. What is the next thing that Paul asks for the church of Ephesians?
6. What does Paul mean by "having the eyes of your hearts enlightened"? Why would Paul pray for this to the believers in the church of Ephesians?
7. Why does Paul use the word "enlightened" out of all the other words?
8. There are three things that Paul prays that the Ephesians would come to "know" through God's help of enlightening the eyes of Ephesians' hearts. What are those?
9. There is a long description of Jesus Christ's current position and authority. Ephesians 1:20~22 says that "He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion." Why does Paul use the past tense "raised" and "seated"? What does this imply for us?
10. What is the first thing that Paul prays and asks for the church of Ephesians in Ephesians 3:14~18?
11. What does Paul mean in Ephesians 3:19, when he says "To know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God"?
12. Both prayers ask for and focus upon knowing what God has given us through Jesus' love. What does Paul pray that Ephesians would come to know regarding God's gift to us?
13. Why praying for this is more important than praying for all the other things that we may and we do pray for?
14. Both prayers end with Paul wanting the believers to be filled with all the fullness of God. What does this mean?