

February 28, 2016

## Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul praises God for the faithfulness that marked Christ followers in the city of Ephesus. He prays that the church will gain deep insight into the Lord's powerful working and rich gifts in Christ. The foundational request of Paul's prayer is that God send his spirit to Christ followers to personally engage in life with them and guide them with spiritual wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. Paul understands a need for our hearts to be flooded with a godly light, that our eyes are opened to the glorious hope, inheritance, and power of our heavenly Father.

### Questions

1. In Ephesians 1:15-16, Paul brings light to how famous the Ephesian's faithfulness to Christ has become. Think about your life, what would family and friends say you are known for? What would outsiders and strangers say you are known for?
2. Paul exemplifies a spirit of thanksgiving in the faithfulness of the Christ followers in Ephesus praising and praying to God for those people. Has there been a time in your life that you were able to appreciate and praise God for what you saw in others? Share this experience.
3. One foundational request of Paul's in his prayer for the Ephesian's was for spiritual wisdom. Where do you need spiritual wisdom? In what ways has the Holy Spirit opened the eyes of your heart?
4. Bill White spoke of hope as the oxygen for our souls. If you do not find hope in God you will search for hope in other things. What things do you find yourself placing hope in that leaves your heart and life deprived?
5. God holds power and authority over all things. How does knowing this influence the way you perceive the world? In what ways does this truth cause tension in your life? How has this reality brought strength and stability into your life?

# EPHESIANS

MYSTERY REVEALED