

Small Group Questions...

Who do you think WE are? (Ephesians 1:15-23)

Spend some time connecting and catching up informally.

Have someone pray asking the Spirit to move and speak during your small group time.

ICEBREAKER

- Describe to the group what happens in you/to you when the Holy Spirit is at work shaping you and transforming you?

Please feel free to read Ephesians 1:1-14

Paul wants us to know those things but he not only wants us to KNOW them he wants these blessings and riches appropriated in us and in the church. He wants us, the church, to live it out. To live like sons and daughters of the KING!

DISCUSS

In the 8 verses that we will look at today, Paul prays that we the church will have revelation: That the Spirit will help us

(1) To know God better and (2) To know who we are in Christ –

Let's start with V15 as we work our way through this passage verse by verse...

Eph 1:15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people,

- Can we expect as FAITH increases for LOVE to do the same?

V16 I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.

- What stands out to you about this verse?

V17 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.

Here basically Paul is praying that the Spirit will give us a deep revelation of GOD so that we will KNOW HIM better. --What do I mean by REVELATION? *Revelation includes both the personal presence of God and truth and this encounter allows us to identify God, understand Him and point others to Him...*

-Revelation occurs when the Holy Spirit reveals truth that helps us to see God, know him and point others to him...

- Have you ever had Holy Spirit REVELATION?

An "A Ha" moment... Where the Holy Spirit drops a truth that you may have known for many years from your head into heart and you are forever transformed...

- Describe that to your group...

What are some of the ways that the Holy Spirit uses to speak or bring revelation?

- Discuss this quote from Rob Reimer "your next level with God lies beyond the boundaries of your current experience."
- Do you agree/disagree?

- How does it relate to this verse and what implications does it have on your life?

Paul continues in V18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know 3 things...

1. You may know... V18a the hope to which he has called you,

- What have we been called to?

2. He then prays that you may know V18b the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

- Why is it important that we know what we have inherited?

3. V19a and you may know his incomparably great power for us who believe.

I think most of us know about this power but do we really know it, do we see it appropriated in our lives. We need to access this power if we are going to be who we have been created and called to be. Reimer says, "This power isn't about us, but it is for us. It's not about control it's for His Kingdom Benefit and we are going to need it if we are to overcome the enemy of our soul."

- So how great is that POWER? Paul illustrates it for us in the following verses...

3a. V19b That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead

- What does this verse mean for us?

3b. V21 and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

- What does this verse say about Jesus? Notice his posture?

3c. V22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

- Who is the head of the church? What are the implications of this verse on the church?

Do you believe that? I mean do you really believe that? We need a deep Holy Spirit revelation of this if we are going to become all that we have been created to be. And because the evil one can't touch Jesus (he's WON, he's seated) his focus has shifted to HIS BRIDE, to us the church and he is going to do whatever he can to keep us comfortable, to get us fighting amongst each other, gossiping, bickering and to have us immobilized by fear.

After having read these verses what have we got to fear if Jesus is in us and he is Lord of all? Easier said than done!

SO WHO DO YOU THINK WE ARE?

We are sons and daughters of the KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS. We need a deep revelation of this and we need to pray that the Spirit will do a deep work in our hearts and souls. So that we will really know God and we will really know who we are and how we are meant to live.

You may like to pray these verses over each other as you finish up...

God Bless.