

God's New People.



Ephesians studies **New Insight**

Key verse: Ephesians 1:17.

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.



Big Idea: Don't let the eyes in your head blind the spiritual insight of your heart.

Kick Off

Make a list of all the things you have needed, or wanted, to know about in your life over the last seven days.

STUDY

Read Ephesians 1:1-23.

1. Following the introduction, this chapter breaks into two halves Praise vv3-14 and Prayer vv15-23.

From the first half write down the big thing Paul is praising God for, v3

And from the second half write down the big thing Paul is praying for, v17

2. To 'know' God is far more than simple awareness of his existence, which is for the most part taken for granted in the bible. To know God is to recognise him for who he really is. And our knowledge of God is dependent on God's revelation of himself to us. Work through the first 14 verses and write down the description of who God really is...

- The Father of Jesus
- Someone who has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ...
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3. In vv18,19 there are three specific areas in which Paul wants the Ephesians to know God better. These three areas are; his calling, his inheritance and his power. How can we increase our knowledge of:-

‘the hope to which he has called you?’

‘the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints?’

‘and his incomparably great power for us who believe?’

4. Compare what Paul is asking God to help us know with what you wrote down in the ‘kick off’ section above. Are passing, earthly issues distracting you from growing in knowing heavenly realities?

5. Paul knows we need spiritual insight to combat our earthly eyesight. Why is it that ever increasing spiritual insight is needed to enable us to walk more confidently by faith and not sight?

6. What two things did the ‘power of God’ achieve in Christ v20?

7. In the face of evil what comfort is there for us in vv20-23

THINK AND APPLY

In what practical ways can we stop earthly concerns blocking out spiritual realities?

Can you think of examples of Christians who have walked by faith and not sight?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?



**For next week
Read Ephesians
2:1-10.**