

EPHESIANS

WHO I AM AND WHY IT MATTERS

Last week we began a new series in the book of Ephesians. This book, or letter, was written to a specific church during a particular time in history. It was instructional for the church in Ephesus, but it's also instructional for us. By looking at what the Holy Spirit was saying through Paul to this church, we can identify what God is saying to us today.

Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-23

Discussion Questions:

1. Looking back at your notes, what encouraged or challenged you the most?

Read Ephesians 1:15-16a.

2. Have you ever left a Yelp review? Are you more likely to leave negative or positive feedback? Why are we more likely to share negative feedback with someone rather than positive feedback?
3. We could all use more positive feedback. It's not likely that you've ever suffered from too much encouragement. What would it look like to model what we see Paul doing in these two verses?

Read Ephesians 1:16b-23.

4. In verses 15-16a, Paul identifies the positive and points it out to those in whom he sees it. What do we see Paul do next? Similarly, how often do you express your gratitude to God for someone? What keeps you from doing this?
5. Paul is an excellent example for us in many ways, especially prayer. Take a moment and identify from these verses what Paul prays for the Ephesian church. Why does he pray for such things?
6. What would it mean to know someone is praying for you as Paul prayed for the Ephesians? What keeps us from being faithful intercessors? What steps could you take to begin praying regularly and specifically for others?
7. What's the difference between a powerful and powerless Christian life? How do we tap into the power available to us in Christ?
8. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on applying in your life this week?