



# A Prayer for Intimacy with God

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

How do you deal well with life when you're confused about what's going on?

I. PRAISE: "I thank God for \_\_\_\_\_ reputation as true believers."

*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 ... vv. 15-16a*

II. PRAYER: "I pray you devote your life to knowing God \_\_\_\_\_."

*... remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened ... vv. 16b-18a*

III. PURPOSE: "Knowing God intimately helps you live \_\_\_\_\_ daily."

*... 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. vv. 18b-23*

Live today in light of ...

**CHRIST IS  
OVER ALL**

... your \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18b)

... your \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18c)

... His \_\_\_\_\_ for us! (vv. 19-23)



## HOME GROUP LESSON

1. What would you say is the “big idea” of this sermon? In other words, what question does the sermon ask and answer?

2. Read Ephesians 1:15-23. Describe the realities of life that were confusing for the believers in Ephesus, and how they were reacting to them. How are our circumstances and struggles similar today?

3. Why does Paul not pray for God to change the *circumstances* of those in the Ephesian church? What does he pray for instead? How do Jeremiah 9:23-24 and Philippians 3:10 support his reasons for doing so?

4. Christians should rely not on their own effort but on the Holy Spirit indwelling them. In the following verses, identify what the Spirit does, and how that directs you to call on His power so you can live well today.

SCRIPTURE                      SPIRIT'S MINISTRY                      HOW YOU WILL CALL ON HIS POWER TODAY

Eph 1:13-14

Eph 3:5

2 Cor 12 and 13

Jn 14:26

In addition to the corporate gathering of believers, the primary place where God empowers us is through His Word and His Spirit as we pray there with Him. His power helps our hearts so we rise encouraged and inspired, no longer confused or discouraged by circumstances. In this part of Ephesians Paul uses four different words to describe this power:

**CHRIST  
OVER ALL**

- *a spiritually dynamic and living force*
- *energetic power that overcomes resistance* (used only of God, never believers)
- *inherent strength*
- *provided by God*

These magnificent words underscore the magnitude of God's great power—and it's all available for you! How are you utilizing it? Do you call on it daily? Are you even aware of its existence?

As you close in prayer, spend some time telling God of your gratitude for other believers in your life and the evidence of their thriving relationship with Christ.

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

### WOMEN IN THE WORD STARTS THIS

**THURSDAY.** Ladies, join us at 7 p.m. in the Oak Room as we begin our summer study and meet five real women from the Old Testament. In “The Good, The Bad and The Beautiful” you'll discover how the relationships these women had with God – good, bad and beautiful – made all the difference in how they lived. Sign up and RSVP for Kids Care today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP).

### GUYS, JUMP INTO BAND OF BROTHERS

**THIS THURSDAY.** It's not too late to join Men's Ministry for “When the Godly Live God-Less Lives.” Based in Ecclesiastes, you'll learn lessons from Solomon, a man who had wealth, power and success, but still lacked significance, contentment and purpose. Add wisdom and community into your summer, and join the guys of CCBC this Thursday at 7 p.m. in The Den. To sign up, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/men](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/men).

### SUMMER SOUL CARE GROUPS BEGIN THIS

**THURSDAY, MAY 31.** We want to help you become the person God made you to be, and sometimes that means working through our issues. Soul Care is offering a number of groups on fear and anxiety, loneliness, food addiction and more. To read about the groups and sign up, visit [www.cbc soulcare.org](http://www.cbc soulcare.org).

### FAMILIES, LET'S GO “SOARING” THIS

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2.** From Texas to Tahiti, the CCBC Pops Orchestra presents a globetrotting children's orchestra concert complete with sing-alongs, surprises and appearances from characters your kids know and love. The musical adventure begins at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Invite friends to join you and come soaring with us! Questions? Email Jennifer at [JenniferC@christchapelbc.org](mailto:JenniferC@christchapelbc.org).

### FAMILY BACKYARD IS NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 3.

We're sailing into summer with a celebration! Join us for the 5 p.m. worship service, then stick around afterward because the Great Room will be transformed into the best backyard on the block with summer treats, fun activities and time to hang out as a church family. We'll see you there!

### STUDY THE BOOK OF MARK WITH DR.

**DOUG CECIL.** Written to introduce believers to Christ's way of discipleship, Mark is a book that will help you grow in your faith and your discipleship journey. Join the class any Sunday at 6:30 p.m. in the Oak Room. Questions? Email Jessica at [JessicaK@christchapelbc.org](mailto:JessicaK@christchapelbc.org).

### WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT

**AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING?** Christ Chapel partners with The NET Fort Worth and the Tarrant County 5 Stones Task Force to help those who are trapped in the industry. To get involved, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/serve](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/serve) and click “For Life.”

### DOWNLOAD THE CCBC APP.

Available from the App Store and Google Play, our app keeps you in touch while on the go with sermon archives, staff contacts, a way to submit prayer requests, an ESV Bible and more.