

EPHESIANS

BLESSED • ACCEPTED • BELONG

*“So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son.”
Ephesians 1: 6 (NLT)*

LESSON 4 – PRAY FOR SPIRITUAL WISDOM

Paul loved the Ephesian Christians, and it becomes very evident in the verses we are studying this week. Not only did he teach and spend time with these saints, he took the opportunity to pray for them as you’ll see in his passionate, heartfelt prayers. As you read through these verses, notice what he does not pray for – material things. There is no mention of him praying for material riches, but rather he prays for their eyes to be opened and their hearts to be flooded with the understanding of their riches in Christ. Let’s follow his example this week as we take time to pray for those we love.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer.

THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 1:15-23 (NLT)

¹⁵Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God’s people everywhere, ¹⁶I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. ¹⁸I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. ¹⁹I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God’s power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power ²⁰that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in the heavenly realms. ²¹Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. ²²God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. ²³And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

This Week’s Memory Verse:

I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly,
Ephesians 1:16 (NLT)

1. This week's scripture emphasizes the importance of prayer. Let's look at the verses and note the different areas that the Apostle Paul prays for the Ephesians.

a. Verse 17: _____

b. Verse 18: _____

c. Verse 19: _____

d. We all need prayer in these areas. Looking at the list above, which of these prayers would you like someone to pray over you and why? _____

2. In order for our prayers to be answered, we must be praying to a powerful God. The scriptures speak of how powerful God truly is. What did our Lord accomplish according to verses 19-20 to show His power? _____

a. With that in mind, is there any prayer that is too big for Him? Look up Genesis 18:14 and note what it says. How does this encourage us in our Christian life? _____

3. A great scripture reference for our prayer life is 1 John 5:14-15. Look up these verses and note what we have to do in order for God to hear our prayers. _____

a. We may not always know what God's will is in a situation, but His word gives us guidelines. Simply put, if we want to know what to pray for, first search the scripture and there many of our answers will be revealed. If not, pray that God's will would be revealed through His Spirit. What guideline is given in James 1:5-8 for our approach to asking God and how can you apply it to your life? _____

Reflect – Respond – Result

There are many verses in the Bible about prayer. This week take some time to research some of these verses and choose one that stands out and ministers to you. Write it down and share why you picked this scripture.
