



**Riverstone**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## Sermon Based Questions

**Date-** Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Series-** All Things- Under Christ part 2

### Thanksgiving & Prayer

*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. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe.*

#### 1. Praying for revelation and open eyes.

- Giving thanks for the Ephesians

I keep asking for:

- Wisdom & Revelation
- Enlightened eyes
- Power

**Icebreaker:** Can you remember the first time that you prayed in public? How did you feel? Do you think you can grow in your prayer life? Who or what shaped the way that you pray when you do?

**A. Examining the texts.**

1. Read Ephesians 1:15-16. What prompted Paul's prayers and what was he thankful for regarding the Ephesians?
2. Read Ephesians 1:17-18. What things does Paul ask God for on behalf of the Ephesian Christians?
3. Read Ephesians 1:19-23. Why do you think Paul links prayer for power for the Ephesians with the resurrection and ascension of Jesus?

**B. Meditation & application**

4. How is what Paul prays for here related to the first 17 verses of the letter?
5. In this opening chapter, Paul prays for something and then he prays for its realization in the life of the Ephesians. What does this teach us about how we are to relate teaching and prayer?
6. As you read Paul's prayer how would you relate it to your own or the prayers of most people you know? What concerns drive Paul's prayers and what often drive ours?
7. We could say that Paul provides for us a model of mature prayer. If that is the case how could you model your prayers for your family and those you minister to on his? How might your prayers be changed by reading his?

**A Challenge:** This week use the prayer and bible reading guide to pray for people using this prayer in Ephesians one as your guide. How could you let it shape your praying. If you don't have a prayer habit how could you build one every day in the coming week.