



GROUPS

DISCUSSION

Group Discussion

5-10-2020

Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking 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. I 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.

I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. Now 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. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

-Ephesians 1:15-23

10 minutes (Relational Check-In*)

1. One thing that made you smile this week?
2. One thing you learned about yourself this week?
3. One thing you struggled with this week?

*answer 1, 2 or all 3 check-in questions

20 minutes (Bible Study Discussion)

Read: Ephesians 1:15-23 completely, re-read 1:17

1. How would you define 'spiritual' wisdom?
2. What is the difference between information knowledge of God and relational knowledge of God? Which is being talked about in this verse?

Read: Ephesians 1:21

1. Do you find it to be a struggle to daily live in a way that reflects the truth that Jesus is far above any ruler, authority, power or leader? Explain.
2. What changes in one's life when this truth is lived out?

Read: Ephesians 1:23

The Greek word Ekklesia is what we translate as church in most of our English bibles. This word, Ekklesia, is used 111 times in the New Testament. Ekklesia is defined as 'those called out from,' while the word church is an old Germanic word meaning 'house of the Lord,' later defined as a 'house for public worship.'

1. Do you think that this translation from Ekklesia to Church impacted the way the New Testament has been read? Why or why not?
2. If Christ's body is composed of those who have been called out from something, what would you say you have been called out from?

10 minutes (Prayer Requests & Prayer)

1. What burden are you carrying that we can join you in praying for?
2. What blessing can we join you in thanking God for?