

Knowing God –
Through Prayer & By
the Spirit

Eph. 1:15-23

How do God's blessings become REAL to us?

1. They are spiritual blessings – 2Cor.4:3-6;
1Cor.2:12-14 Holy Spirit glasses

2. As we:-

a. Praise God – Eph.1:3-14

b. Pray asking for the Spirit's help

1. Prayer – a great example 1:15-17

a. Confidence in prayer – v.15,17a

b. Thanksgiving in prayer – v.15,16

c. Persistence in prayer – v.17; 6:18; Col.4:2;
Lk.11:5-10; 18:1-8; Gen.25:21

d. The Spirit's help

- revelation-the Bible – 2Tim.3:16; 2Pet.1:20,21

- illumination-seeing the truth – Lk.24:31,32,45

2. Vital prayer requests – v.17-23

Our basic need – to know God/know God better

Passionate desire – Ex.33:18-34:7; Phil.3:7-14

Seeing clearly:

a. Our calling – v.18,4,5 Eph.5:25-27;1John3:1-3

b. Our inheritance – v.18

- God's inheritance – 1:13,14; Ex.19:5

- Our inheritance – Col.1:12; 1Pet.1:4; Rom.8:17

c. God's power in & for us – v.19-23

God's incomparable power displayed:-

1. The resurrection of Jesus –v.19,20
2. The ascension & coronation of Jesus –v.20,22
3. The Church – v.22,23 cf. Acts2:34-36; 4:25-30; 5:28-32; 7:55,56; Col.1:11

3. The challenge

God has given us all we need to know him:-

- the death & resurrection of Jesus
- the Bible
- the Spirit

a. Is knowing God a priority for me/us?

b. Are we regularly/persistently praying – card, prayer directory, special times of prayer? – that we will:-

1. Know our calling - holiness, loved children of God
2. Be captured by the future - God's & ours- pilgrims
3. Experience God's power - trust, obedience, endurance & patience