

Connect

A basic definition of *knowledge* is: gaining an understanding through experience, or by being taught. How is knowledge of God given to us?

Verses - Ephesians 1:15-19 (CSB)

15 This is why, since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your
love for all the saints, 16 I never stop giving thanks for you as I remember
you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in
the knowledge of him. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be
enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what
is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the
immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe,
according to the mighty working of his strength.

Study

1. Since we recognize that Paul is writing to *Christians* in Ephesus, what first does he see as "qualifying" them for the "wisdom and revelation that would lead to the knowledge of Him"? (vv.15-16, Romans 1:8-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-5)
   a. Why should it qualify them? (Matthew 6:33; Hebrews 11:6)
   b. What could disqualify them? (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; 1 John 4:20)

2. What does Paul mean by "the knowledge of God?" (v.17)
   a. Why do the Ephesians need the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to gain such knowledge?
   b. What makes gaining such knowledge a challenge that prayer is needed?
   c. What role does the Spirit play in gaining this knowledge? (1 Corinthians 2:10)

3. What does it mean for God to "enlighten the eyes of their hearts?" (vv.18-19) (Acts 26:18; Ephesians 2:22)

DISCUSS: Exactly what is Paul thanking God for? Should we imitate Paul praying like this for other Christians? If so, in what capacity?

APPLY: How would things change in your life if the Lord fully answered Paul's prayer for you? What should we pray for and in what ways should we ask God to bless us in?

Share

When you first came to hear and believe the word of truth (the gospel) did this affect your love for all the saints? Since then, how has your knowledge of God changed? How has your love for the church changed?

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Praise that the Spirit would give us wisdom and revelation that would lead to the knowledge of God.
- Pray we grow in Godly love towards others.