

What was the point of the message on Sunday? If for some reason you missed it,

Here's the Point ...

“We Need to Know God As We Should”

“If only I had ... then I would be happy.” Sound familiar? We tend to think that the root of our anxieties, worries, and cares is not having something we want. But in Eph.1:15-20, Paul points out that our biggest problem is not what we don't have but that we don't know what we *already* have. Our biggest problem is that we don't know God as we should. We all live our lives around what we know to be true about God and Paul is praying for God to give us eyes to see what we already have in Christ, to personally know three amazing truths about God.

1. We Must Know the Hope of God's Calling (v. 18)

Why are you a Christian? Your answer to this question is either going to bring you anxiety, arrogance, or hope. Think about it. If you believe that God called you because of something He saw in you, then you're going to be anxious or arrogant about your standing before Him. Anxious when you're struggling to keep your performance up. Arrogant when you're performing well. But, if we truly have eyes to know God's calling in our lives - that He called us by His grace, not because of what He saw in us, but in what He wanted to make of us, this brings hope. And what's hope? It's a confident certainty. Do you find yourself wondering if God really loves you? Do you sometimes doubt your standing before Him? Just think of the people that Jesus called to be his disciples. He didn't choose the all-stars at the university. He called ignorant, sinful, impatient fishermen and tax collectors. The hope of God's calling is the certainty that we belong to God now and forever not because of something in us, not because of something we've done, but simply because God set His love on us and said, “Come, follow me.” Do you know this hope?

2. We Must Know the Riches of God's Inheritance (v. 18)

Paul prays that we would know the riches of God's inheritance in the saints. Notice, He doesn't say *our* inheritance. He wants us to know *God's* inheritance. But what is God's inheritance? Psalm 2:7-8 makes it clear. “The Lord said to me, “You are my Son ... Ask of me, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance.” What did the Son of God do? He asked the Father. You know why you're a Christian? Because the Son asked for you. And Christ isn't getting junk, notice, He's getting riches. He's getting those who, by His grace and power, will be transformed into a pure and holy bride adorned for her Husband.

3. We Must Know the Greatness of God's Power (v. 19-20)

It takes God's power to live God's way. Paul understands that our problem is not that the life-giving power of God is not available; it's that we don't take hold of it by faith. We don't believe God's Word as we ought to. We don't sign our names to His promises by faith. It takes God's power to run a business God's way. It takes God's power to build a marriage and lead a family God's way, etc. The good news is that this power is ours as we walk by faith in the promises of God. Do you know the greatness of God's power?