

SERMON 1: EPHESIANS 1

Bible Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Do you believe, in your heart, that you are called to be part of something that is bigger than yourself

- THE BELIEVERS IDENTITY IN CHRIST JESUS: vv. 1-14 Paul begins with declarations of what God has done for believers in Christ:
 - V.3 _____ with every spiritual blessing. The believer is precious in the sight of God, on the basis of who they are in Christ Jesus.
 - V. 4 _____ in Christ before the foundation of the world to be Holy and Blameless in His sight.
 - V. 5 _____ into the family of God through Jesus—amazing gifts of free grace lavished, liberally poured out on us!
 - V.9, 10 _____ into the mystery of God's will, that he purposed in Christ.
 - V. 13, 14 an eternal _____: Guaranteed by the Holy Spirit.
- 2. **MADE FOR MORE!** Two things Paul is praying we will get:
 - V. 17: Paul's prayer is that God will give believers the Spirit of ______ and so that, we may know Him better.
 - V.18 ff: That the 'eyes of our hearts would be enlightened so that we may _____. Freshly anointed eyes, so that we may see how God is at work in and through us.

- A confident hope. Because of Jesus in the believer, they are connected to the life of Jesus in eternity that unlocks the full potential of what God calls us to be in the here and now.
- God sees us as His inheritance! V. 18 God sees and delights in us, when he looks at us through Jesus.
- :_____"The incomparable greatness of God's power for us who believe.
 - That power is most exemplified in His raising Jesus from the dead. V. 20
 - That same power brought him to ultimate honour and authority in heaven. V. 20
 - Everything, supernatural and natural, is far under him! Whatever you can think of, give a name to—it is far below Jesus. The believers share in that victory, that glory, that status as the body of Jesus Christ V. 21:

God placed everything under his feet for the Church.

The believers are fully endowed with the power of God working both in them and through them;

They are the manifestation of Jesus in the world. The fullness of God who fills everything in every way—everything, everywhere, at all times, in all creation

- The Church is not a ______, it's a
- The Church is not a _____, it is a _____. "The people of God saved by the power of God for the purposes of God through the power of God."

How will we respond? This cannot be fulfilled, if as a believer, you are ______ God's call on your life by settling for less.

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