

What We Need for Walking Worthy

Ephesians 1:15-23

1. Our perception of what we think we need is frequently changing. What are some examples of things you used to think you needed that you now realize you don't? What are some examples of things we think we need that most people in human history have never even heard of?
2. According to vv.17-18, what does Paul pray for the church that reveals what they really need?
3. Our prayers are often for new blessings and changed circumstances. However, Paul's prayer is that they would know the blessings that already belong to them. Practically, how would our prayers be different if we prayed more like Paul in this passage?

We need to know what God will do for us

4. According to v.18, what do we need to know about what God will do for us? What does it mean that we are God's inheritance? Do we think of ourselves in this way?
5. It was mentioned that children who know they are loved usually live healthy lives. Why do you think this is the case?
6. Why would knowing that God loves us as his adopted and cherished inheritance motivate us to walk worthy? How should it change the way we live?

We need to know what God has done for us

7. In v.20 Paul explains how God has demonstrated his power in the past. Explain the distinction between Christ being raised and Christ being seated and how these actions demonstrate God's power?
8. How would you explain vv.20&21 to someone who doesn't believe Jesus is currently the reigning King? How would you respond to someone who wanted evidence of this? Is there evidence?
9. Why should knowing that God raised and seated Christ motivate us to walk worthy? Practically, how should we cling to and apply these truths when life seems uncertain?

We need to know what God is doing for us

10. In v.19 Paul wants the church to know "the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe." The power God demonstrated in Christ's resurrection is the same power that belongs to us. Do you think of us as having/knowing this power?
11. What does Paul mean when he says Christ was given to the church in v.23? What does it mean for us to know this power that the reigning King has been given to us and fills us? If we really believe this, how should it affect us? What will our lives look like if we really believe this?
12. It was mentioned that we want everyone in our church to get out of our comfort zones and start practicing biblical hospitality so everyone is opening up their homes and lives and inviting in those whom God has sovereignly placed around us. We want to love our neighbors and share the gospel with them. And we want to share these stories with each other of how we're doing this so that we can encourage and pray for each other. What are some ways you are practicing biblical hospitality? If you're not, what are some small steps you can take to begin this process?