

EPHESIANS

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

Ephesians was written by Paul while in prison in Rome somewhere between A.D. 60-63. He wrote to the Christians in Ephesus and the Gentile believers throughout southwestern Asia Minor. Ephesus was set on a long-established, major road leading eastward into the heart of Asia and Syria that was strategically well placed to become the leading commercial center in Asia Minor. Ephesus was a wealthy city and an obvious choice for the provincial capital of Roman Asia Minor, both commercially and spiritually. It was the home to the ornate Temple of Artemis, along with other statues honoring Augustus, Claudius, and Nero. Scholars believe this led to one of the themes of Christ's victory over oppressive, occult, and even demonic powers that plays a significant role in Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Ephesians is one of the most influential documents ever written. Ephesians has been described as the crown and climax of the Pauline theology because the explanation of the gospel and life with Christ provided here is powerful and direct. This letter is the most contemporary book in the Bible and can apply directly to our modern context. It describes human beings, their predicament, sin, and delusion, but much more, it describes God's reaching out to people to recreate and transform them into a new society. The focus on God's new society also makes Ephesians one of the most important works for understanding the church. This short little letter is a surprisingly comprehensive statement about God and his work, Christ, the gospel, and life with the Spirit. All the privileges of life are found in union with Christ and conveyed by the Spirit. Ephesians also presents a gospel of union with Christ more powerfully than any other New Testament letter. From living with Him, we learn how to live for Him.

May this year be marked by each of us clinging to the gospel, and our prayers echo that of Paul's for the church in Ephesus. Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

TETHERED TO TRUTH



MONDAY - EPHESIANS 1:15-17

PASSAGE

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.

Ephesians 1:15-17

PRAYER

- Begin your time of prayer by pausing and recognizing the power and presence of God.
- Thank God for the people in your life who encourage your faith in Jesus.
- Ask God to reveal His glory to you today.
- Recognize that God is the giver of all wisdom and revelation.
- Ask God to reveal new things about Himself today.

TRUTH

God is the giver of all wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.

CHALLENGE

Come to God today as you seek wisdom and revelation. We are quick to find answers in a variety of places for a variety of needs. We seek advice from friends, we ask Alexa for anything and everything, and when all else fails, we turn to Google. Although scripture isn't designed to give us quick answers to our daily questions, it does meet our greatest longings. So today, as hopes and needs arise, may we turn to God and seek revelation that is only found in the knowledge of Him.

TETHERED TO TRUTH



TUESDAY - EPHESIANS 1:18-23

PASSAGE

Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that he worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 1:18-23

PRAYER

- Begin your time of prayer by pausing and recognizing the power and presence of God.
- Ask God to enlighten you to understand the hope which He has called you.
- Thank God for the riches and glorious inheritance that you have in Christ.
- Meditate on the greatness of His power that is found in Christ on your behalf and the authority that Christ has over your life.
- Recognize the power of God that raised Christ from the dead and ask for that power to be made alive in you today.

TRUTH

Lasting hope isn't found in things of this world but in the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints.

CHALLENGE

As you start the day, may the eyes of your heart be enlightened and fixed on true, lasting hope. We are quick to fix our eyes on things of this world and find hope in fleeting and unfulfilling things. Spend a few minutes thinking about, or writing, the riches of your inheritance in Christ.

TETHERED TO TRUTH



WEDNESDAY - EPHESIANS 3:14-19

PASSAGE

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:14-19

PRAYER

- Begin your time of prayer by pausing and recognizing the power and presence of God.
- Ask God to strengthen you with power through His spirit.
- Ask God to dwell in your heart today through faith.
- Pray that you would be rooted and grounded in love.
- Ask God for strength today to comprehend and experience the fullness of the love of God in a new way today.

TRUTH

We know the love of the Father by experiencing the fullness (breadth, length, height and depth) of the love of Christ.

CHALLENGE

We are quick to play the victim and believe the lie that we can be disqualified from the love of God. Today and every day, you are fully, freely, and forever forgiven and loved by God. Today as you feel unlovable, inadequate, or unworthy, ask God to give you strength to know the fullness of His love for you.

TETHERED TO TRUTH



THURSDAY - EPHESIANS 3:20-21

PASSAGE

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

PRAYER

- Begin your time of prayer by pausing and recognizing the power and presence of God.
- Ask God to open your eyes to see His greatness today.
- Ask God for the faith to pray bold prayers.
- Ask God to align your prayers with His desires and will for your life.
- Ask for God to be glorified with you and through the Church today.

TRUTH

God is bigger than our wildest dreams, His love is deeper than we can imagine and He is able to do more than we could ever ask or think.

CHALLENGE

Mark Batterson says, "Bold prayers honor God, and God honors bold prayers. God isn't offended by your biggest dreams or boldest prayers." Paul prayed big prayers because he believed great things about God. Pray boldly today by asking God to give you the desires of His heart.

TETHERED TO TRUTH



FRIDAY - EPHESIANS 6:19-20

PASSAGE

Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Ephesians 6:19–20

PRAYER

- Begin your time of prayer by pausing and recognizing the power and presence of God.
- Ask God to fill your mouth with His words today.
- Pray for the people in your life (family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and others) that they will fully embrace and fearlessly proclaim the gospel.
- Pray that you will make known the mystery of the gospel to the people that God places in your path today.

TRUTH

God gives you the words and power to fearlessly proclaim the gospel.

CHALLENGE

Sharing the gospel with friends and family members is a daunting task. Many of us feel inadequate and are driven by fear of the unknown. As ambassadors of Christ, our purpose in life is to make known the mystery of the gospel. As you have conversations today, ask God to fill your mind and mouth with His words.

TETHERED TO TRUTH



SATURDAY - TETHERED TO TRUTH

As we prayed with Paul through Ephesians this week, we were reminded of 5 truths about the character and nature of God. Spend some time today meditating on these truths and ask God to allow them to be woven into your thoughts throughout the day.

Meditation is often used in Eastern religions, but it is prevalent throughout Scripture and has been used by God's people for thousands of years. The difference between Eastern Meditation and Christian Meditation is the goal behind each practice. In Eastern Meditation, the goal is to empty one's mind with the intention to connect with essential nature. Christian mediation has the purpose of filling one's mind with Scripture with the intention of connecting with God.

As you meditate on these truths today, ask God to tether your life to these truths as you process the week behind and prepare for the week ahead.

TRUTHS

God is the giver of all wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.

Lasting hope isn't found in things of this world but in the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

Knowing the fullness of God is found in experiencing the fullness (breadth, length, height and depth) of the love of Christ.

God is bigger than our wildest dreams, His love is deeper than we can imagine and He is able to do more than we could ever ask or think.

God gives you the words and power to fearlessly proclaim the gospel.

TETHERED TO TRUTH

