

Ephesians 1:16

What do we learn about Paul's practice of prayer?

Ephesians 1:16a

How can we follow Paul's example in our own prayer life?

What was the content of Paul's prayers?

Ephesians 1:16

Who did Paul give thanks to, and why?

Jonah 2:9e

How does this challenge us about our own prayer life?

What requests does Paul make for the Ephesians in his prayers?

Ephesians 1:16b

"Prayer is a sincere, sensible (fervent), affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised, or according to his Word, for the good of the church, with submission in faith to the will of God." (John Bunyan)

EPHESIANS LINE BY LINE

The story so far...

Paul writes this letter as an apostle to those who are saints and faithful to Jesus in Ephesus.

He begins by praising God the Father for blessing them with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

God the Father has blessed us by choosing to adopt us as sons, by redeeming us through the death of His Son, by uniting us (and one day all things) under the rule of His Son, by giving us to His Son as an inheritance, and by sealing us with the Holy Spirit which guarantees our future.

Ephesians 1:15-16

"For this reason,

*because I have heard
of your faith in the Lord Jesus
and your love towards all the saints,*

*I do not cease
to give thanks for you
remembering you in my prayers."*

Verse 15a

What is the 'reason' Paul is referring to?

Ephesians 1:15a

What do these truths drive Paul to do?

Ephesians 1:16

Why do these truths drive Paul to this?

Ephesians 1:15b

What does this tell us about what prayer, in the first instance, is?

How does this challenge us about our own prayer life?

Verse 15b

What two characteristics does the apostle Paul say will be present in the lives of God's people (those who have been blessed with every spiritual blessing)?

Galatians 5:6

Colossians 1:3-4

1 Thessalonians 1:3

2 Thessalonians 1:3

Philemon 4-5

How did Paul know that the saints in Ephesus have been blessed with every spiritual blessing?

Ephesians 1:15b

What kind of faith do they have?

Ephesians 1:15b

What is the problem with a phrase like "I've got faith?" or "I have faith in God?"

How did Paul know that they had faith in Jesus?

Ephesians 1:15b

John 13:34-35

How can we show our love for 'all' the saints?

How would the Ephesian Christians be encouraged by Paul's words in this verse?

Verse 16

What did Paul do when he heard of their faith and love?