

A Prayer for All Believers **Ephesians 1:15-23**

I. Pattern for Prayer 1:15-17

1. Prompted by what he heard - 15 (Wherefore)
He heard of their faith in the Lord Jesus
He heard of their love for all the saints
2. Praise and Petition - 16
Continually gave thanks to God for them
Continually prayed for them
3. Person to whom he prays - 17
The God of our Lord Jesus Christ (cp. v. 3)
Our approach to God rests upon our relationship
to Christ
The Father of Glory
Focus of our prayer is for His glory

II. Petition of Prayer 1:17, 18

God would give spiritual understanding – 17-18

1. So they would grow in knowledge of Him
God's revelation is aimed at helping us to better
know Him
As knowledge of God grows, life & perspective
changes
2. So they would know the hope of His calling
To better understand their calling,
what God's call implies
To see more clearly our hope in Christ
Great hope is what gets us through difficulties of
this life
3. So they might know the riches of His inheritance
To grasp the fullness of God's plan and purpose
for us
To better understand the riches we have in Christ

III. Power in Prayer - 1:19-22

That we might realize fullness of God's power

1. Greatness of God's power available to us – 19
2. Same power that raised Jesus from dead - 20
Power great enough to conquer sin, death and hell
3. Same power that exalted Jesus over all - 20-22
Over all that is in Heaven - seated at God's right
hand
Over every principality & power – all authorities
Right now in this world and in the future
All things are under His feet – 22
4. We approach with confidence in His name

IV. Jesus Christ is Head of the Church – 1:22-23

1. God has given Him authority over the Church
It is Christ's church
He has purchased it with His own blood
2. He is the Head of the church

As head all decisions are to be made by Him

3. The Church is His body

The body carries out all that He desires

Think of this analogy & the disorder when it does
not work

Will of the head is hindered if the body doesn't
work