

Ephesians 1:15-23

Objective: Our prayers must be less "bless me" and more "bless them".

1. What is one thing you prayed for or wished for as a kid? Did you ever get it?
2. What is one thing you pray for now?

Read v.15-16

1. What characteristics of the Ephesian church prompted Paul to be thankful? Why?
2. What part does prayer play in your daily life?

Read v. 17-18

1. Read Colossians 1:9-12 – Compare these verses with Paul's prayer. For the Ephesians.
2. What does it mean to be "the riches of His glorious inheritance"? How do you feel about being considered His inheritance

Read v. 19-23

1. How should the truth of these verses alter the way we live every day?
2. "The purpose of prayer is not to inform God of our needs, but to invite Him to rule our lives." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
3. What can we do to change our prayer focus from us to God/others?

What I will be talking about

We all ask God for stuff, but do we love God or His stuff more? And if we decide that we need to love God more than His stuff, how do we get to that place? Paul gives us a good idea in Ephesians. His prayer for the Ephesians did not put any focus on himself, instead He prayed that the Ephesians would be blessed and would grow. Prayers like Paul's remind us of who God is, and show us who we are in Him.