

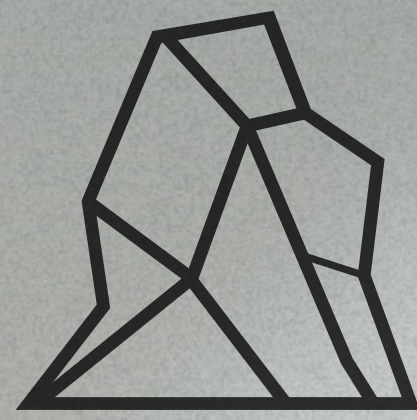


EPHESIANS SERIES
**BUILT ON
BIBLICAL
BEDROCK**
THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

PART 1

Three Precious Truths Every Christian Should Know

Ephesians 1:15-23



EPHESIANS SERIES

BUILT ON BIBLICAL BEDROCK

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASURES GOD

TODAY'S MESSAGE | OCTOBER 10, 2021

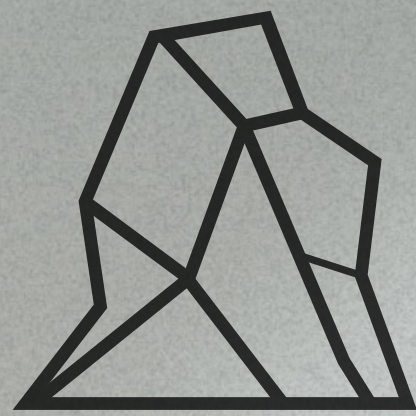
Three Precious Truths Every Christian Should Know (Part 1)

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

What would you ask God for someone you really cared about? Paul prayed for three things for his Ephesian friends because he knew what they needed most. And what was good for them should be precious for us. So, whether for yourself or those you deeply care about, it is good to know these truths, these prayer requests, that we can ask from God and can be certain that He will grant if we genuinely desire them.

MAIN PETITION: After expressing his deep joy over his friends, Paul's main prayer was that God would grant spiritual insight to God's people through the Holy Spirit. This would lead them to realize what they already had:

- 1. WHEN YOU FEEL HOPELESS: In Christ, God has given us a hope that never ends.**
 - We have an eternal hope that doesn't depend on our goodness but on God's grace. This hope is the absolute certainty of our victory in Christ (*Romans 8:23-24*).
- 2. WHEN YOU FEEL WORTHLESS: In Christ, God has blessed us with a glorious future.**
 - We not only have a glorious inheritance *in Christ* (all the spiritual blessings in Ephesians 1:3-14), but we are an inheritance to Christ. This is true of all who are in Christ: God views us in His Beloved Son and values us accordingly.
- 3. WHEN YOU FEEL HELPLESS: In Christ, God has granted us immeasurable power**
 - We have within us the same power that raised Christ from the dead!



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FINAL THOUGHTS

Thoughts of hopelessness, worthlessness, and helplessness attack us at various points in our lives. But the Word reminds us that we've already been given all that we need, in Christ. Realizing and letting these precious truths change the way we think, will change the way we live (Romans 12:2).

*I once was lost in darkest night,
Yet thought I knew the way.
The sin that promised joy and life,
Had led me to the grave.*

*But as I ran my hell-bound race,
Indifferent to the cost.
You looked upon my helpless state,
And led me to the cross.*

*Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone,
And live so all might see,
The strength to follow Your commands,
Could never come from me.
O Father, use my ransomed life,*

*In any way You choose,
And let my song forever be,
My only boast is You!*

*Hallelujah! All I have is Christ
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life*

(**"All I Have Is Christ"** by Jordan Kauflin)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who do you need to pray for to have a deeper appreciation of the future hope they have in Christ?
2. It is wisely said, "*Don't pray to make God fit your plans, but to give yourself to fit into His.*" How is this reflected in what you pray for? How can it change the way you pray?
3. Paul encouraged the Ephesians by telling them exactly how he was praying for them. How will you do this with the people you pray for?
4. In your group, close in prayer and ask each person in the group to pray at least one of the three prayer requests of Paul for another person in the group.

Download the study guide: bit.ly/EphesiansStudyGuides



The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Jojun Loanzon



THE HEART OF WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I miss worshipping the LORD with you, inside our Ortigas Center sanctuary. I miss the koinonia after each service at the lobby. I miss the laughter, the kids screaming, the atmosphere. I miss the warmth and “*kumustahan*.” I miss seeing you, in the flesh, my GCF family.

These are some of the blessings of worshipping together, physically. But as I often remind myself, the heart of worship is all about our God. Our compassionate, merciful, gracious, loving, and faithful LORD is the beginning and end of worship. It’s all about Him! Let’s not miss the point. Let’s keep the main thing, the main thing. We come to worship with hearts and souls bowed. We come to worship as offerors. We come to worship, to give to God the glory due His name.

We live in a consumption-driven world. The artificial intelligence and the algorithms in our digital world makes sure we consume more of what we search for on the internet. It is habit forming. As a result of this experience, the danger is that we bring this consumer mindset into a time of worship. It becomes “me-centered” instead of “God-centered.” “Bless me with your singing. Bless me with the message.” We become critical. It is important that we are aware of this danger. Let us avoid this pitfall. What should we need to do?

Prepare. Give.

Prepare our hearts and souls, to worship and bow down; to kneel before the LORD, our Maker. (Psalm 95:6) Prepare to bring an offering. Prepare by bringing to mind who He is and what He has done. Give and offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. (Hebrews 13:15-16) Give thanks to the Lord; bless His name. (Psalm 100:4)

Prepare what you have purposed in your heart to give, not out of compulsion, but with a cheerful heart. (2 Corinthians 9:7) Give your gift, your fragrant offering, your sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. (Philippians 4:18)

Prepare by quieting your hearts before Him. Cease the other activities. Draw near to listen. (Ecclesiastes 5:1) You are in the presence of God.

Finally, give your life, as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual act of worship. (Romans 12:1)



WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

BDO

BDO Corporate Center
Savings Account: **000661590216**

METROBANK

Ortigas Sapphire
Savings Account: **629-3-62919733-9**

CHINA BANK

Ortigas ADB
Savings Account: **1112-02006218**

BPI

Ortigas Emerald
Peso Savings Account: **9823 0217 01**

UNIONBANK

UB Plaza
Checking Account: **0005-9001-0426**

ROBINSONS BANK

Main Office
Savings Account: **1000-3010-0017-355**

PAYPAL

Please visit **gcf.org.ph/give**

Scan QR code below:

GCASH



PAYMAYA



Send a copy of your transaction document to **finance@gcf.org.ph** so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

GCF BAYANIHAN FOOD STALLS

The GCF Mercy Ministry continues to accept donations, here's how:

For In-Kind Donations: drop off at the GCF Lobby from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

For Cash Donations: give via the GCF bank accounts (gcf.org.ph/give).

Email your deposit slip to finance@gcf.org.ph with the subject "For Bayanihan Food Stall". For questions, contact the Mercy Ministry at 0917 532 7672 or mercy@gcf.org.ph

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also give to support the church family's COVID relief efforts.

Just indicate "**For COVID-19 Fund**" when you email your transaction document.

CHURCH UPDATES

GCF ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS (LAST DAY TO NOMINATE)

To read the duties and qualifications of Elders and Deacons, visit election.gcf.org.ph

To nominate, visit bit.ly/GCFNominationForm
Deadline for Nominations: **October 10 (Sunday)**

NO ON-SITE CONGREGATION UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Available during the 5:00 p.m. service only until further notice

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Tuesdays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays | 8:00 p.m. | via Zoom

KidsLIFE ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Saturdays | Little Ones - 10:00 a.m. • Growing Kids - 10:15 a.m.
Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

LIVEstream (YouthLIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

YA TALKS

Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

FAMILY GGEX (GROWTH GROUP EXPRESS)

Every Sunday Morning | 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 nn
GGEx Leader: Pastor Emerson Manaloto | Zoom: bit.ly/FamilyGGEx
Passcode: familyGGEx | For Inquiries, contact Marj at 0917-779-1549

TELECONSULTATION SERVICE

For appointments or questions, contact:
gcfocstef@gmail.com (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 nn) | gcfocluan@gmail.com (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

DMG 2 PRAYER GATHERING

Calling all KidsLIFE, YouthLIVE, and YA people! Let's get together!
October 16 (Saturday) | 8:00 p.m. | via Zoom | bit.ly/dmg2gathering | ID: 880 9191 1953
Passcode: next gen | For Inquiries, contact Didi at 0917 532 7741

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Message us your prayer requests at:
Facebook: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | E-mail: pray@gcf.org.ph

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

We are so glad you're here today! We want to personally welcome you via Zoom after the 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Worship Services.
Zoom Room: bit.ly/WelcometoGCF | Welcome Form: bit.ly/GCFWelcome



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605
Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

☎ (02) 8632 1357 🖨 8632 1354 to 56 🌐 gcf.org.ph ✉ email@gcf.org.ph