



Step #1 Knowing God

Biblical Discipleship

Ephesians 1:3-21

Knowing → Growing → Going

- In the first 3 chapters of Ephesians, Paul is going to tell us what we suppose to **know**
- Then in chapter 4 to 6 he will focus in what area we are suppose to **grow**
- Let us focus on chapter 1 today and see what's the first thing we should know



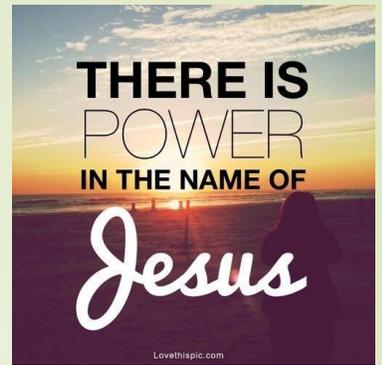
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- First, Paul wants us to know our **identity** in Christ (which is what I want you to know as well) but **why?**
 - We are **blessed** with all spiritual blessings (v.3)
 - We are **chosen** before the foundation of the world (v.4)
 - We are **adopted** and given the right as children (v.5)
 - We are **accepted** even though we were God's enemy (v.6)
 - We are **redeemed** by the ultimate price (v.7)
 - We are **forgiven** for ALL of our sins (v.7)
 - We can **Know** God and the mystery of His will (v.8-9)
 - We are to be **united** with Christ (v.10)
 - We have an heavenly **Inheritance** and can **hope** in Him (v.11-12)
 - We are **sealed** with the Holy Spirit, who is our **guarantee** (v.13-14)

Hope and Riches



- Paul wants to enlighten us with these truths so that we can have 3 things:
 1. "...*the hope to which he has called you*" (v.18)
- Knowing our new lives in Christ can give us hope that does not fade away (Col. 1:23; 27)
- Instead the world wants to rob us from this hope (hopeless)
- 2. "...*the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints*" (v.18)
- Do you know that you are rich? If not, just read about your new identity again (Eph. 2:7; 3:16; Rom. 11:33; Phil. 4:19)
- Instead the world will tell you that you are worthless and unhappy

Power In Christ



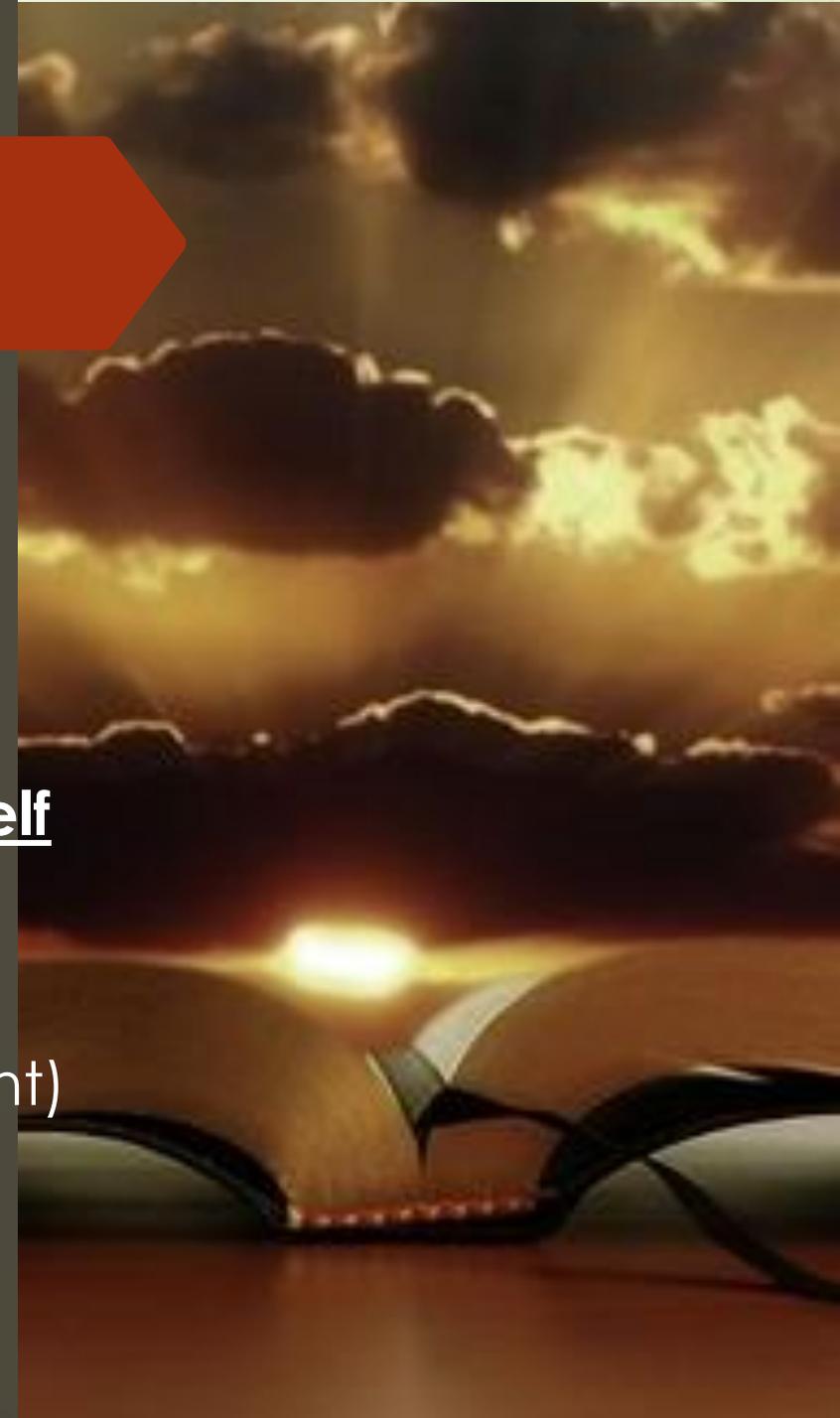
3. "...the immeasurable greatness of his **power** toward us who believe..." (v.19)

- Do you believe that Jesus is more powerful than your struggles? Do you believe that you can "do all things through Christ who strengthen us" (Phil 4:13)
- **Hope, riches, and power**, are the things that God wants us to know and experience, nevertheless many of us do not get to experience them, why?
- Let's look at Paul's prayer a little deeper...



Wisdom and Knowledge

- ▶ Paul was praying that they will receive 2 things:
- ▶ First it was the **Spirit of Wisdom** (John 14:17; 26)
- ▶ This is called illumination—God the Spirit speaks to us through the Scripture
- ▶ And through **God's revelation of knowledge of Himself**
- ▶ This is called revelation—God reveals Himself to his people
- ▶ Notice: **Wisdom + Knowledge = Understanding** (insight)
- ▶ Also notice: both wisdom and knowledge are **from God** (Col. 2:3)



Our Identity in
Christ (Knowing
God)

Receive God
(Humility)

Hope, Riches, &
Power
(Experience God)

- The missing link is in our heart (Prov. 1:7; 9:10)
- Are you willing **humble** yourself, recognized your need of God, and receive Him as your Lord and savior? (not just as salvation, but daily)
- This is truly knowing God 😊

Knowing God

- Knowing → Growing → Going
- Do you **trust** God in your **new identity** or you rather listen to the world?
- Do you **experience** His hope, riches, and power in your daily life? Why not? How is your **heart** today?
- You can know and experience God today if you simply **humble** yourselves before God.
- **Knowing** God—It is your **choice** today

