

## Ephesians Devotional Guide – Part 4

### Exercise #1

Read Ephesians 1:15-23. In verse 16 Paul claims that it is his habit to thank God for the Ephesians. Take a few minutes to review the people God has used along your journey with Christ. Spend time thanking God for them. Give praise to God for the way He demonstrated His faithfulness to you through the lives of others.

### Exercise #2

In Ephesians 1:17 Paul prays for the Ephesians to know God better. What does it mean to know God? Do you want to know Him better? What things can you do for this to happen?

### Exercise #3

Reflect on the following from J.I. Packer:

*Knowing God is a matter of grace. It is a relationship with which the initiative throughout is with God – as it must be, since God is so completely above us and we so completely forfeited all claim on His favor by our sins. We do not make friends with God; God makes friends with us, brings us to know Him by making His love known to us. Paul expresses this thought of the priority of grace in our knowledge of God when he writes to the Galatians, “now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God....”(Gal. 4:9). What comes to the surface in this qualifying clause is the apostle’s sense that grace came first, and remains fundamental in his readers’ salvation. Their knowing God was the consequence of God’s taking knowledge of them. They know Him by faith because He first singled them out by grace.*

Reflect on God knowing you and befriending you. Marvel at His grace. Marvel over the fact that He *knows* you. Ask Him to increase your desire for a relationship with Him.

**Exercise #4**

In Ephesians 1:19-23 Paul emphasizes the great power that is available to believers. Review the ways he highlights this power. Consider whether you are experiencing such power in your life. In what ways? In what ways do you see God's power unleashed in the church?

**Exercise #5**

Look ahead to next Sunday's sermon by reading and studying Ephesians 2:1-10. Reflect on what your life would be like if you had not come to Christ. From verses 4-10, identify three things God has done for us. Spend time praising God for the work of grace that He has done in you.