*“Pray for Understanding”*

**Ephesians 1:15-22**

**Intro / Background:** Seven specific blessings that God has given to us as found in **Ephesians 1:3-14**.

1. He chose us in Christ before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. **(vs. 4)**
2. He adopted us as sons through His Son Jesus Christ. **(vs. 5)**
3. We have redemption and forgiveness through the blood of Christ. **(vs. 7)**
4. He made know to us the mystery of His wisdom and understanding. **(vs. 8-9)**
5. We were chosen to be living examples that would bring praise and glory to Him. **(vs. 11-12)**
6. We were included in Christ when we heard the word of truth, the gospel of salvation. **(vs. 13)**
7. We were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. That's come into our lives. **(vs. 13-14)**

In **Ephesians 1:15ff** Paul is acknowledging that it doesn’t do any good for people ***just*** to hear the truth… they need *to understand it***!** He’s also acknowledging that his teaching can only go so far. He can talk and talk and talk, but somewhere along the line, he must pray for understanding.

* The point is simply this**:** *You cannot live what you do not understand*.
* The truest thing about you is what God says about you. Living by faith is simply *acting like what God said about me is true*.

Three things that Paul wanted them to understand…

1. **The Greatness of His plan:**
2. ***The Greatness of His Power*:**

Power for what**?**

1. He gives us power *for godly living* –
2. He gives us the power *to evangelize* –
3. He gives us *power to endure suffering* –
4. He gives us *power to serve* –
5. **The Greatness of His Person:**

**Application:**