



Sermon Discussion Guide

Christ Supreme - Tim Knipp

October 6th, 2024

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
 - Who or what have you felt persistently thankful for recently?
 - Describe a time when you couldn't help but pray to give thanks.
 - What sorts of prayer do you find yourself coming to most naturally on a regular basis?

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
 - Prior to delving into this week's passage, consider listening to this podcast, either together as a small group, or as individuals beforehand. <https://bibleproject.com/podcast/ephesians-part-1-prayer-power/>. (The whole episode is great, but from 15:25 until 43:23 most directly explores the nature of Paul's prayer).
 - As you read this week's passage, consider: What does Paul show us about how to pray for each other?
 - **Read Ephesians 1: 15-23** (or start at verse 11, for slightly more context)
 - What reason does Paul give for continuously praying for the churches he is writing to?
 - What does Paul ask for God to give to the letter's audience? (v. 17-19).
 - What sorts of things is Paul asking for in his prayer?
 - What sorts of things is Paul not asking for?
 - What is stated about the power Paul mentions in verse 19?
 - What is said about God in this passage?
 - God the Father? Jesus Christ? The Holy Spirit?
 - How is God said to bless his people in this passage?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
 - What is shown about God's character through this passage?
 - What does Paul's example of prayer show us about how to pray for each other?
 - How is Paul's example alike or different from ways you have prayed for and with fellow followers of Christ?
 - What might this mean for us as a small group, and how we pray together regularly?
 - Of the blessings Paul asks God to give these churches, which do you find most encouraging? Why?
 - Are there any you find challenging? How so?

Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
 - Where in your life would you like to pray that, "the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the spirit of revelation, so that you may know him better." (v. 17) ?
 - Circumstances that are going well?
 - Circumstances that are challenging?
 - In the week ahead, how would you like to borrow the words of Paul in this prayer for your own prayer routines?
 - In your prayer for your own life and situations?
 - In your prayer for others?
 - What routines will help you return to these words of from Paul throughout the week?

Time of Prayer