



## CELL GUIDE

**TOPIC** A Prayer that the Church Needs

**SPEAKER** Elder Low Kok Guan

**THEME** Spiritual Insight or Blindness (John 8:12)

**DATE** 02 & 03 Mar 2019

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Elder Kok Guan introduced the book of Ephesians and emphasised that Paul was likely in prison while he wrote this letter. Even then, his thoughts were not on himself, but on the people in Ephesus, such that they would better understand and appreciate God, His purposes, and His power.

The theme for the book of Ephesians is: Unity. Not only the unity of the church, but seen also in the Father's purpose, to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. (Eph 1:10)

## A PRAYER THE CHURCH NEEDS

As Paul lays out the Father's purpose, he also prays for the church to understand God's purpose and power. He lays out 4 main points in his prayer for the church in Ephesus:

**1. Wisdom and Revelation to know God better**

The aim is not just to know God, but to know Him better. A more precise and correct knowledge of God, not based on what we think or feel, but on who He has revealed Himself to be. In order to know Him more so that we can be more like Him, we must spend more time *with* Him.

**2. Enlightened to know the Hope to which we are called**

We know and are assured that all the promises and prayers in Christ will come to pass. Paul's prayer is for us not only to know this truth in our minds but in our hearts, and to actively live out our lives always expecting for God to work in us and through us.

**3. Enlightened to know the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people**

Paul prays that we might not only know how rich our inheritance is, but also know that it is an inheritance that is meant to be shared. God's holy people come together not merely for fellowship, but to reach the lost and share our rich inheritance with others.

**4. Enlightened to know His great power for us**

Finally, Paul reminds us that whether it is in living the victorious life in Christ now, or in sharing about our future inheritance with others, we are to do so not from our own strength, but in the incomparably great power that has been given to all who believe.

## CONCLUSION

Have we submitted in all things to the one who has been appointed head over all things? Do we spend time to abide in Him so we be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit? What kind of Christian man/woman do you hope to be? Who will you share your inheritance with?

# QUESTIONS

1. What are the main points in Paul's prayer to the church in Ephesus? How does it compare to your own prayer for the church?

2. What kind of Christian man/woman do you hope to be? Share one or two aspects which you are currently praying to God to empower you in. Who might be someone who can help you grow in this area?

3. Who are you looking to share your inheritance with? Whose names have you written on the Celebration of Hope card that you have committed to Pray over, Engage, and Gather with?