

WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation” Pt. 6

Thursday, October 27, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

FACILITATION OF LESSON

Sermon Title: “The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation,” Pt.6

POINT I

We are continuing our study of the Ephesians Prayer. To begin our study tonight, let’s read Ephesians 1:16-18 in the New English Bible and it reads, *“I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the all-glorious Father, may give you the spiritual powers of wisdom and vision, by which there comes the knowledge of Him. I pray that your inward eyes may be illumined, so that you may know what is the hope to which He calls you, what the wealth and glory of the share He offers you among his people in their heritage and how vast the resources of his power open to us who trust in him.”*

The Apostle Paul saw something by the Spirit of wisdom and revelation that was even greater than what Moses saw in Genesis Chapter 1. Paul’s letters are even different from the four Gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are a photograph of redemption. Paul’s letters are an x-ray.

If you saw an x-ray of a person you knew, you might not even recognize who it is. In a photograph, you see a person. An x-ray is the same person, but it is a different kind of picture. In the four gospels, you see what man saw in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. You see a photograph. Paul’s letters show us an x-ray of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It’s the same picture, same event, but a different kind of picture. Paul shows us what God saw. Paul saw what happened in the Spirit, not just what happened to Christ, but what happened **in Christ**.

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QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between a photograph and an x-ray?
2. What is the difference between what the Gospels show us verses what Paul shows us?

POINT II

Let’s continue our discussion, God saw us there in Christ. We died with Him, we were buried with Him, and we were made alive with Him. We were raised up together with Him.

Paul was not physically there for the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, but he wrote about what happened by revelation knowledge. Remember, the entire bible is written revelation. So, it must be possible for every believer to experience this same revelation because Paul prayed for believers to know according to Ephesians 1:19, “.....*the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.*”

The words in the bible are spiritual revelation that describe spiritual or unseen realities and explain the mystery of your redemption. You can read the bible with just your intellect and read it like a regular book, in which most people do, or you can allow the Holy Spirit to open revelation to you.

QUESTIONS

1. How does God see us in Christ?
2. How did Paul write what we’re reading in the New Testament?
3. What is the difference between reading the bible like a regular book versus reading the Bible by the Holy Spirit?

POINT III

Don’t let the devil outbluff you folks. The term “outbluff” means to persuade someone that something false is the truth, or to keep the truth hidden from someone for your own advantage. In Ephesians 1:16-17 The Living Bible it states, “*16 I have never stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you wisdom to see clearly and really understand who Christ is and all that he has done for you.*”

This is an example you may be familiar with, in the World Championship Game of Poker, hundreds of thousands of dollars change hands among the players. While they are playing, the camera shows the television audience the exact hand each player has. Most times the player that wins beat the player with the better hand. The player with the better hand folded because the other player outbluffed him. The

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mystery of what the other player had in his hand was revealed by the television camera. You can see who really had the winning hand. Everything God has done for us in Christ belongs to us. Yet, many times we fold and throw in the cards even though we’re holding the winning hand.

We don’t understand the mystery of our redemption in Christ. We think, well, I wonder what the other side has. The other side doesn’t have anything. Christ has already dethroned and defeated the devil. You need the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so you can see what God has already done for you in Christ.

QUESTIONS

1. How have we allowed the Devil to outbluff us? What can we do to prevent that from happening?

POINT IV

The mystery of your redemption can be explained by the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, understanding who you are and what you have in Christ. We stated this before that every breakthrough in faith comes from a breakthrough in revelation knowledge, not necessarily new information.

Lester Sumrall once said that most Christians never progress beyond their initial revelation of God. He said you cannot go forward in faith without going forward in revelation. The Spirit of wisdom and revelation opens our eyes to see the unlimited possibilities of God. That’s why you are going hear repeatedly during this series, the Spirit of wisdom and revelation.

QUESTION

1. Why don’t most Christians progress beyond their initial revelation of God?

POINT V

Listen, after 30 years of teaching, preaching and evangelizing the world, the Apostle Paul expressed his continuing personal desire for a deeper revelation of Jesus Christ. He said in Philippians 3:10 AMPC, “[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death, [in the hope].”

It was the Holy Spirit that inspired Paul to write the prayer in Ephesians 1 so it must be important for every born again, Spirit-filled believer to pray it also. This must mean that you will not get the Spirit of

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wisdom and revelation if you don't ask for it. If you are continuing to pray for the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, that must also mean that it is progressive, an ever-increasing revelation.

The Hubble space telescope made major discoveries in every area of astronomy. But the James Webb telescope is going further and deeper into the unknown. It's opening up things to the public that otherwise would never be seen.

The spirit of wisdom and revelation will open up things that you have never seen and it will get stronger and stronger and deeper and deeper. It is progressive; an ever-increasing revelation. It's inexhaustible.

QUESTIONS

1. When reading Philippians 3:10 AMPC what was Paul desire?
2. What is meant when we say progressive revelation of the spirit of wisdom and revelation?

POINT VI

Jesus' ministry was run on revelation. **John 5:19** says, *“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. I see what my father does and I do what I see. 20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.”* Jesus' ministry was run on revelation. Today, God wants us to see supernaturally. When the eyes of our heart are opened, we can see, say, and do the will of God. A breakthrough in revelation enables us to see what God sees. Revelation also changes our perspective. The view is so different when we see things from God's perspective. God sees us in Christ. Everything looks different in the light of our redemption in Christ Jesus.

There may be some that may not know what that means when we say the mystery of our redemption. The word redemption means the purchase back of something that had been lost, by payment of a ransom. The eyes of your understanding opened to see the real price that was paid for you. What really took place in your redemption. The way you see, your whole perspective, changes with the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. Revelation will revolutionize your dedication to do the will of God.

QUESTIONS

1. How was Jesus' ministry ran on revelation?
2. What are the benefits of a breakthrough in revelation?
3. What does the word redemption mean to you?

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When the eyes of our hearts are flooded with light, great changes will happen in our lives. **Ephesians 1:18** in the Doddridge Translation states, “...*the eyes of your understanding enlightened still more and more; that being thus illuminated, ye may know in a more comprehensive manner than you now do...*”

QUESTION

1. What Happens when our hearts are flooded with light?

POINT VII

In his book, “The Life of St. Paul,” James Stalker says of Jesus, “*He had to carry His deepest thoughts out of the world with Him unuttered, trusting with sublime faith that the Holy Spirit would lead His church to grasp them in the course of its subsequent development.*”

Stalker also says the following about Paul and his writings, “*The right way to look at them is to regard them as the continuation of Christ’s own teaching. They continue the thoughts Christ carried away from the earth with Him unuttered.*”

QUESTIONS

1. How does James Stalker describe Jesus’ thoughts when he departed the earth?
2. How does James Stalker describe Paul and his writings in your own words?

Paul by the Holy Spirit had a revelation of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is power in revelation knowledge. The Apostle Paul prayed for believers to have a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God. Revelation is not something you see with your natural eyes or learn by head or sense knowledge. Revelation comes when the eyes of your heart, your spiritual eyes, are opened.

QUESTION

1. What is revelation knowledge according to what we just read?

Jesus said in **John 17:16**, “*They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*” We live in this world, but we are not of this world. We are tempted to walk by sight, but we are not just regular people who live by only what we see. We walk by faith – by revelation knowledge.

Revelation is revealed by the Holy Spirit. Our natural eyes can’t see but hearts can see it. We can experience revolutionary revelation given by Jesus from the Father by the Holy Spirit.

God created you to know that there is more than what you have right now – there is more available. He’s looking for somebody that will believe God. While everyone else is scared, God is looking for someone

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that will act in faith. He’s looking for somebody in **Daniel 11:32** who has a revelation that the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

QUESTIONS

1. Why are we tempted to walk by sight? How should we walk?
2. Who is God looking for in relation to what we just read?

If you want life to be different for you, take this prayer of Ephesians and pray it every day for at least six months. If you only pray it once a week, you don’t really want life to be different. If you do want life to be different, then pray this prayer every day. If you really want to be in the right place at the right time with the right people. If you really want to be led by the Spirit, take this prayer and pray it. Believe God for a breakthrough in revelation. Believe for a revolutionary revelation in your understanding, in the eyes of your heart. Believe for a breakthrough in the way, you see yourself, the way you see the call of God, the way you see your inheritance and the way you see your authority as a believer.

QUESTION

1. If you really want change in your life what should you do? What should you believe God for?

CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)

PRAISE REPORTS - *2-MINUTES PER PERSON

PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)

Prayer focus:

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
 - a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian, Carmelo and the ministerial staff.
 - b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

Have you reached out to your circle today?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Join Covenant Partners Ministry for "A Lover's Stroll," **Friday, October 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm.** Invite a couple! For more information, contact Minister Oysterman by email at wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com.
2. VIP Silver Saints have a Game Day on **Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 2:00 pm** at the church. Put your game face on; bring a dish and invite a friend. Fun, fellowship, food, prizes and more are in store. For more information contact Minister Williams.
3. Mark your calendar for the Word of Faith St. Thomas 25th Anniversary Celebration Weekend. With Ministry of the Word by Pastor Kevin Wright of New Beginnings Christian Life Center in Byram, Mississippi. The anniversary banquet is Friday, November 18th.
4. Join us for Early Morning Prayer, Monday- Friday from 6:00 am - 7:00 am and Saturday's at 10:00 am. Join us on the Miracle Line where sickness disappear and wholeness appears through Jesus Christ on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 11:00 am by conference call, Facebook, YouTube and the Word of Faith Website. The call-in number for the Early Morning Prayer and the Miracle Line is (717) 908-1834, access code 755875#.

Then Join us for Noon Day Prayer, with Evangelist Sharon Walker. Join us for 1-hour to pray. This is an In-person Prayer Service at Word of Faith.

5. Pastor and Evangelist Walker have launched an initiative called **WOFICC CARES**. It is their desire to serve the needs of the families in our church, in our community and throughout the Caribbean. Your help is needed! Monetary donations are being accepted to be a blessing to those truly in need. When making your donation to please write "**Gift for WOFICC CARES.**" **WOFICC CARES** about our church family! **WOFICC CARES** about our community! **WOFICC CARES** about the Islands of the Caribbean!

OFFERING

- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL
