

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

LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation” Pt. 9

Thursday, December 1, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

VIP Silver Saints - Conference Call # (717) 908-1834 – Dial *6 to Mute

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.9*

POINT I

We are continuing our study of the Ephesians Prayer of Revelation. In Ephesians 1, Paul prayed for believers to know three things specifically through the Spirit of wisdom and revelation knowledge:

1. The hope of his calling,
2. The riches of the glory of his inheritance
3. The exceeding greatness of his power to those who believe.

The Spirit of wisdom and revelation is necessary and mandatory to access the call, the inheritance, and the authority we have as believers. To know and understand these three things requires that believers have the eyes of their understanding (of their hearts) enlightened or flooded with light so they can see things differently.

QUESTION

1. What are the three things Paul desires for us to know and how do we gain access to them?

The reason why the Ephesian prayer is so important is that the call of God, the inheritance, and the authority of the believer must be accessed supernaturally. The Spirit of wisdom and revelation helps believers see themselves the way God sees them.

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When you see yourself the way that God sees you, you not only see what God has done for you in Christ, but you also see everything that is available and belongs to you because of what God has already done for you in Christ.

QUESTION

1. Why is the Ephesians prayer so important?

POINT II

In **Ephesians 1:18**, the Apostle Paul makes this statement, ¹⁸ *The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,*

Let’s explain this portion of verse 18, “*the hope of his calling.*” The Cornish Translation reads **Ephesians 1:18**, this way, “... *and illuminate your inner vision, the eyes of your heart, thereby explaining and opening to you the full nature of his calling and its aim and expectation...*” The moment you are born again in Christ, you possess a supernatural calling and identity in your spirit. It takes the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to open the eyes of your heart to access who you are and what God has called you to do.

QUESTION

1. What happens when you are born again?

In **Jeremiah 1:4** states, “*Then the Word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. ⁶ Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. ⁷ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. ⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. ⁹ Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.*”

God told Jeremiah, “*I called you before you were ever born. Now, let Me tell who you are! Don’t say you are something different. Say that you are who I say that you are!*”

Notice that God touched Jeremiah’s mouth. For Jeremiah to fulfill the call of God on his life, he could not speak or see himself just naturally. God told Jeremiah to say he was who God said he was. Anytime God wants to change someone’s life, He always touches their mouth.

QUESTION

1. What did God tell Jeremiah and why is it so important in our day and time?

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2. What did God have to do for Jeremiah to change the way he saw himself? How does this apply to you and me?

God has placed a call on each of our lives. Each of us also has a choice. We can function in a lower calling, bumping around in God’s permissive will for the rest of our lives or we can say, **Philippians 3:14** *“I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus UPON MY LIFE.”* The low calling is His permissive will, meaning He will permit you to do certain things. It’s not because He wants you to do them, but there’s nothing to say you can’t do them. But the high calling is His perfect will meaning you are doing exactly what He designed and called you to do.

QUESTION

1. What is the difference between the low calling and the high calling?

POINT III

The high calling will always cost you more than the low calling: however, the high calling will bring far greater rewards. In **2 Kings 2:9** it says, *“And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. Look at Elijah’s response in verse 10, ¹⁰ And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. He told him if you are willing to pay the price, you’ll get it. If you want a double portion, it will cost you more.*

The same is true for believers today. The higher calling will cost you more in obedience, sacrifice, and pursuit, but it is absolutely vital that you access the supernatural call on your life.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the high calling for Elisha and what was necessary for him to receive it?
2. What will the high calling of God cost you?

Listen to me closely, it doesn’t matter how much stuff you accumulate or how many fun things you do – you will never be happy in life until you are fulfilling the high calling of God on your life. The natural man will always want to pursue natural pleasures and possessions, but the moment you get born again, you are no longer just a natural man. In **2 Corinthians 5:17** it states, *“Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* You are now a new creation in Christ, a supernatural man.

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Now God intends for you to live in two worlds and to function in this natural world, but also to operate according to his unseen world. You can only access God’s unseen world, and your own calling with the Spirit of wisdom and revelation.

QUESTIONS

1. When will you truly be happy in life?
2. What are the natural tendencies of man? What are you now!
3. What does God intend for you to do? How?

POINT IV

Now, let’s look this portion of Ephesians 1:18, “... *and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints...*” Now we are going to focus our attention on “*the Rich Inheritance.*” There was a certain prosperous grandfather who only had one little granddaughter. When she was born, he deposited one million dollars in her bank account. This little girl runs and plays however she is completely oblivious to how very rich she is. One day, she will grow up and realize how blessed she is. Then she will be able to receive and enjoy her inheritance that was hers all along. In the same way, when you were born again, the Father God deposited a rich and glorious inheritance in your account.

QUESTION

1. How does this analogy apply to us?

Paul’s prayer in **Ephesians 1:18** is that the Church would have a revelation of this inheritance. He then prays another prayer in **Ephesians 3:14-21**. **Ephesians 3:16** states, “¹⁶*That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;* ¹⁷*That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,* ¹⁸*May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;* ¹⁹*And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.*” What is Paul praying? He’s asking God to grant the believer the spiritual strength to grasp the vast love of God and to make a withdrawal from this rich inheritance.

QUESTION

1. What is Paul praying? How should it apply to you personally?

POINT V

Romans 8:17 states, “*And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*” The Amplified version of this scripture states,

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¹⁷And if [we are His] children, [then we are His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His spiritual blessing and inheritance], if indeed we share in His suffering so that we may also share in His glory.

The Passion Translation of **Romans 8:17** states: *¹⁷ And since we are his true children, we qualify to share all his treasures, for indeed, we are heirs of God himself. And since we are joined to Christ, we also inherit all that he is and all that he has. We will experience being co-glorified with him provided that we accept his sufferings as our own.*

Everything God has belongs to us, and everything Jesus has belongs to us.

QUESTION

1. What is the true revelation in these different translations? Be specific!

By the Spirit of wisdom and revelation you access the inheritance that is yours through Christ. Paul is not talking about some fluffy little blessing you will enjoy when you get to Heaven. He is talking about enjoying the fullness of God’s best blessing right here, right now!

As a member of the Body of Christ, you have an inheritance to claim that is beyond anything you could ever ask, dream, or imagine. Growing up, my family didn’t enjoy a luxurious lifestyle by any means. But I always sensed that I should be rich. Then when I got saved, I sensed that God wanted to make me rich. The word “rich” means *abundantly provided for*.

QUESTION

1. Have you ever sensed that you were supposed to have more than what you have? What does more mean to you?

When I got born again, I couldn’t get enough of God’s Word. As I began to study, I got a glimpse of my redemption in Christ. I found **Galatians 3:13** where it says, *“¹³Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: ¹⁴That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”* Poverty is a curse! I found **Proverbs 10:22 AMPC**, where it says, *“The blessing of the Lord—**it makes [truly] rich**, and He adds no sorrow with it [neither does toiling increase it].”* No painful toiling! I found out in **Deuteronomy 28:11 AMP** where it says, *“¹¹The LORD will give you great prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your livestock and the produce of your ground, in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. ¹² The LORD will open for you His good treasure house, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all*

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the work of your hand; and you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow. ¹³ The LORD will make you the head (leader) and not the tail (follower); and you will be above only, and you will not be beneath..”

QUESTION

1. Upon reading these verses, what stands out to you?

POINT VI

When you read scriptures like these you start trying to figure how God is going to make you rich. Then you look at your family and think, “*Maybe someone in my family is going to die and leave me some money.*” But when you look at your family, you realize a rich inheritance wasn’t coming from them. You start trying to figure out this inheritance that God said belongs to you, and how it will happen with your intellect and your mind.

QUESTION

1. Have you ever tried to figure out how God was going to make you rich? Why were you trying to figure it out?

That’s why you have to continue to pray the Ephesians 1 prayer:

Father God, I’m asking you to give unto me the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God, that the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened so I can know the call of God, the inheritance that belongs to me, and the authority I have as a believer. Give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of You because I’m not seeing my inheritance clearly. I’m not walking in the light of it. I’m not enjoying my inheritance. The number one thing I need from you is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation.

The Lord is saying you don’t have to wait for somebody rich in your family to die and leave you an inheritance. Actually, someone extremely wealthy in your family has already died and left you everything. If you’re asking who is this person? Read **2 Corinthians 8:9** which says, “*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*” He also rose from the dead to make sure you received your inheritance.

QUESTIONS

1. What is the number one thing we need from God?
2. Why don’t we have to wait from someone in our natural family to die in order to leave us an inheritance?

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Instead of seeing yourself as a poor person who is trying to prosper, you need to change your perspective and say, I am prosperous, and my life is changing to line up with who God says I am. I’m not trying to be blessed, I am blessed! Your whole perspective needs to change.

You need to begin to tell the devil, you have to take your hands off of my stuff, Satan, because I belong to Jesus. As a believer, I have authority over you. I declare right now that money comes to me now! I’m a tither and a giver. I’m blessed coming in and I’m blessed going out.

I’m the head and not the tail. I’m going to drive the best, wear the best, live in the best, and eat the best.

QUESTION

1. How do you need to see yourself? What should you be saying?

Think about it, if you found out that you had a wealthy relative who had died and left you millions of dollars in their will, you would conduct some very extensive research to find out how to access that inheritance.

Maybe the relative had left you money years ago, but you never enjoyed the benefits of that inheritance because no one ever told you about it. Once you found out about your inheritance, you would do everything you could to access what belonged to you.

Jesus took our curse so we would no longer be cursed. He paid too high a price for our redemption for us to live on a lower level. We access the inheritance that belongs to us in Christ by the spirit of wisdom and revelation.

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

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Have you reached out to your circle today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. **Generation 6:20 Youth Ministry** – Movie Night, **Friday, December 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.** See Minister Julie Francis for more information.
2. Join us for **Holy Communion, Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 10:00 am.** If you are joining us online or by phone, prepare your communion elements in advance so that we can break bread together.
3. Join us for Baby Dedication, **Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 10:00 am.** To register call the church office at (340) 774-8617 or see Minister Abbott immediately following service.
4. **VIP Silver Saints** participating in the Christmas gift exchange, please see Minister Williams after church to get the name of your special person.
5. Mark your Calendars for **30 Days of Prayer** from **Monday, January 2nd to Tuesday, January 31st.**
 - a. Visit **pray30.org** or text **PRAY** to **248-266-9990** to receive the daily devotionals right to your inbox.
 - b. Watch or Read the Daily Devotionals and Pray at Least 30 Minutes Daily.
6. Our youth are invited to follow **youthpray30** on **Instagram** and **subscribe** to the channel on **YouTube**
 - a. In addition, the youth videos will be posted on the **pray30.org/ignite** website page
7. **Children’s Ministry** will have special lessons for the month and a ZOOM meet up every Saturday from 12:00 Noon – 12:30 Noon EST.
8. 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 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#.
9. 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.
10. 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
