

## Clean Slate | Ephesians 1:15-23 January 22nd, 2023

### My Story Questions

*These questions/activities help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one. OR....You might start the meeting with one person sharing highlights of their story for 5-8 minutes and rotate people each week. See the group leader resource page for ideas on sharing your story.*

- 1) People have challenging situations when traveling. Share a time you had obstacles to overcome.
- 2) Blind spots in a car are dangerous. When have you had a close call because of a blind spot?

### Study Questions

*These are meant for personal preparation and group discussion. Use all or pick a few to discuss.*

**Read Ephesians 1:15-23** (You might want two readers - one in a translation such as ESV or NIV and one in a paraphrase such as Living Bible or Message.)

- 1) What two things (vs 15) does Paul specifically thank God for regarding the Ephesians?
- 2) How does our church demonstrate these two things? How have you joined in those efforts?
- 3) Paul prays for the church regularly. What is your practice of intercession for others? What do you learn from Paul's prayer that you could apply?
- 4) Paul prays for them to have the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation and the eyes of the heart enlightened. When has God opened your eyes to a blind spot you have had toward Him or yourself or others?
- 5) How do we cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He does his work to enlighten our hearts? How do we engage the process?
- 6) There are three specific things Paul wants the Ephesians to know. (vs18-19) Can we as a group identify those three things? How could we restate each in different words?
- 7) In verse 20, What is the supreme demonstration of God's power?
- 8) To what position has God raised Christ and over what is he exalted? See also Philippians 2:9-11
- 9) How is your attitude and practice toward church impacted knowing Jesus is head over the church?
- 10) How does Christ use his position of power differently than human's use positions of power? (Mark 10:45)
- 11) What part of your identity in Christ has been most illuminated by this passage?

### Responding to Jesus

*Offer these questions for personal reflection before your group prayer time. Practice listening for God's voice.*

- 1) Lord, "Where do I have a blind spot in my relationship with you or with others?"
- 2) Lord, "Who should I start praying for more regularly? What should I pray?"