

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?"