



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

April 22, 2012

Life – there's an app for that!

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Ephesians 1:15-23 **“Vision”**

We have everything we need already in us, through Christ to live the kind of life we all dream about (v3). Why are so many Christians not living up to their privilege & potential? Because we lack Vision (Pro29:18)! This is a model prayer for vision.

Why Do We Need Vision? Pro29:18

- It is the enlightenment of Believers vv15-16
- To see more clearly what we already have in Christ vv3, 17-18
- So that we can face anything with humble confidence Pro29:18; Phil4:13
- To the praise of His Glory vv6, 12, 14

What Is Vision? Heb11:1; 2Cor5:7

- It is heart experience based on objective truth v17 may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him
- Generally & specifically to where my heart is most restless v18a that you may know the hope to which He has called you
- Knowing that I am God's most treasured possession v18b the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints
- And that His power toward me is greater than any trauma, trial or temptation in life. vv19-23 the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe

How Can I Have Greater Vision?

- ✓ Pray this prayer everyday for yourself. Matt7:7-11; Heb. 11:6; Jer.29:11, 13

- ✓ Meditate on these truths until they ignite your heart. Ps1:1-3, 103:1 How would my life be different if I knew this truth to the bottom of my heart? How would I be different if I really knew this truth? How would I be different with my spouse, parenting, work, everyday life, etc.
- ✓ Fellowship with people who help you to see what eyes can't see. Heb.3:12-14, 10:24-25

Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe. – Augustine



Growing

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- 1) We have everything we need already in us, through Christ to live the kind of life we all dream about (Eph1:3)! Why do you think so many Christians are not living up to their privilege & potential in Christ? How does Proverbs 29:18 address this issue?

- 2) Read Ephesians 1:15-23. What stands out to you from this prayer for spiritual vision? Who is this prayer for (vv15-16)? How does faith & love summarize and characterize the Christian life (v15)? How is this a prayer for deeper realization and application of the blessings we already have in Christ (vv3, 17-18)?

- 3) What's the significance that Paul doesn't pray for better circumstances but for them to see what eyes can't see (Heb.11:1; 2Cor5:7)? If you have what Paul is praying for it doesn't matter how severe the circumstances are you will have what it takes to respond to them appropriately (Phil4:13). Explain.

- 4) Paul prays that the believers' eyes may be opened to see what four spiritual realities (vv17-19)? What does it mean that knowing God is heart experience based on objective truth? Why is it important to apply the truth of who God is specific to where your heart is most restless?

- 5) How important is it that you know that you are God's most treasured possession (v18b) & His power toward you is greater than anything you will ever face (v19)? What are the 3 things you can begin to do to have greater vision? Which one(s) are strengths & which one(s) growth areas for you? Pray Eph1:15-23.