

why church?

The Building of a New Community

Ice Breaker: What's a food that you disliked as a kid, but as you grew to love as an adult?

Read: Ephesians 1

Discussion Questions:

- Opening Thoughts
 - Epignosis: A deep, personal, experiential knowledge—not simply knowing facts.
 - Epi: “intensifying” / Gnosis: “knowledge”
 - Think of someone you know well. What moved your relationship from knowing facts about them to knowing them personally?
- I Pray That You Know: Who God Is (Ephesians 1:17)
 - What does Paul pray God would give believers?
 - Why can someone attend church for years and still not know God deeply?
 - What helps us move from knowing about God to knowing Him personally?
 - How does knowing God change how we face challenges and uncertainty?
- I Pray That You Know: Who You Are (Ephesians 1:18)
 - What are the three things Paul wants believers to know?
 - What does it mean for the “eyes of your heart” to be enlightened?
 - How does knowing our identity in Christ shape how we live?
 - What tends to make you forget who you are in Christ?
- I Pray That You Know: What He Has Given Us (Ephesians 1:19)
 - How does Paul describe God's power, and who is it available to?
 - Why do Christians sometimes rely on their own strength instead of the Holy Spirit?
 - What would it look like to depend more intentionally on the Holy Spirit this week?
- Closing Thoughts
 - Which of Paul's three prayers resonates most with you right now?
 - Knowing God more deeply
 - Knowing who you are in Christ
 - Knowing the power God has given you
- How can you pray these three things for yourself—and someone else—this week?

Share prayer requests and close in prayer.

