21 PAYS OF AVER

DAY 18

JANUARY 26, 2023

Janet Collins

KEY SCRIPTURES

Ephesians 1:15-23

Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom

I love how Paul starts out encouraging the believers with these words: I have heard about your strong faith; I have heard about your love for God's people everywhere. I thank God for you and pray for you constantly. Imagine having someone speak these words to you. How encouraging to hear you are living out your faith in such a way that people notice and lift you up in prayer constantly.

In today's passage Paul prays 3 things for the believers:

1. Spiritual Wisdom and Insight

Paul prays for spiritual wisdom and insight so that the people will grow in their knowledge of God. Truly getting to know someone means spending time with them. It means investing in a two-way relationship. Sharing yourself, being real, but also listening, asking questions, and letting the other person be real. There are no short cuts to getting to know someone, it takes time and investment. There is a big difference between knowing someone and knowing about someone. God wants us to know him.

2. A Heart Flooded with Light

Paul prays that our hearts would be flooded with light. Light brings clarity. It exposes things that are dark and confusing, it enables us to truly see what is real. With this light comes confident hope. We start to clearly see His hand at work in our lives and trust him. We see what He has done in our lives in the past and are confident that He will walk with us through everything in the future - good and bad. We can trust Him.

3. An Understanding of God's Power

Paul prays that we will understand the incredible greatness of God's power. We can so easily get discouraged and feel like things are impossible. However, if we truly have an understanding of God's power, we realize that this same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to us. This is the power that changes us, enables us to love others, and helps us overcome difficulties in our life. It is almost impossible for us to comprehend this type of power, but the more we lean into God, surrender our challenges to Him, the more we experience it. The more we experience it, the more we walk in it with confidence.

REFLECTIONS

- Read Ephesians 1:15-23 what truth is God speaking to you in this passage?
- Paul prays 3 things for the believers: Spiritual wisdom and insight; a heart flooded with light; an understanding of God's power. Which of these three do you feel like you are lacking right now? Spend time praying and listening to what God has to say to you about it.
- Think of a follower of Jesus you know well, spend some time praying these 3 things for them.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for always being with me, and wanting a personal relationship with me. I pray that you would give me spiritual wisdom and insight so that I might grow in my knowledge of you. I pray my heart would be flooded with light so that I live in the confident hope you want me to walk in. I pray that I would grow in my understanding of your amazing power. That same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to me, I receive it, I thank you for it, and I choose to walk in it today. In Jesus name, Amen.