*Ask for God’s Spirit to give you understanding of His Word, eyes to see who He is, conviction and discernment to know how this applies to your life, freedom to speak with humility and honesty before others, as well as love to listen graciously to others. Then read through the passage together before talking through the questions below. Leave time at the end for sharing more specifically how you might need prayer in light of what you discussed, as well as ways you can respond this week.*

**DISCUSSION 1: PRAYER (1:15-23)**

1. How do you think the good and gracious view of God and all the work and blessings we receive from Him in 1:3-14 leads to or motivates prayer (1:15-23)?
2. What are some things you notice about the kind of things Paul does and doesn’t pray for in 1:15-23?
3. How might we pray more like Paul in this passage? What is one thing in your prayer life you could do different to pray more like Paul?

**DISCUSSION 2: HOPE (1:18)**

1. Read Romans 5:2-5; Colossians 1:27; Titus 1:2; Ephesians 1:18; 2:12; 4:4; 1 Peter 1:3. What is the hope we’ve been called to or given in Christ, or what does Paul likely have in mind here as our hope?
2. In what sense is our (objective, secured, promised) hope both future and something we experience or have confidence in now?
3. Why do you think Paul saw knowing the hope we have in Christ as a practical truth or practical reality that Christians are meant to live in light of and find strength in?

**DISCUSSION 3: INHERITANCE (1:11-23)**

1. Read Deut. 4:20; 9:29; 32:8-10; 1 Peter 2:9; Eph. 1:11, 18. In what sense are we God’s inheritance or God’s portion? What does that tell us about God’s view or heart toward us as His people?
2. Read Eph. 1:13-14; 5:5; Col. 1:12; Heb. 9:15; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Rom. 8:15-17; Gal. 3:29; 4:7. What is/are the believer’s inheritance through Christ? In other words, what is it believers inherit or are heirs of through Jesus?
3. Is it easier for you to imagine receiving an inheritance from God or God seeing you as his inheritance? Why?
4. What are some of the practical ramifications of seeing both how God views us as His treasured people (inheritance) as well as the inheritance we receive in Christ?
5. The language of guarantee and down payment (1:13-14) encourage us in the truths that we will be kept by God AND receive all that God intends for us in the future. Why is this meant to give us faith, steadfastness, and hope in this life?

**NOTES OR PRAYER REQUESTS**

**RECOMMENDED RESOURCES**

**Ephesians Resources**

You can find additional [resources on Ephesians](https://stonescrossing.com/blog/2024/01/17/resources-on-ephesians) at our Discipleship Resources page at https://stonescrossing.com/discipleship-resources