

MARCH 30, 2025

PRAYING

WITH PAUL

SERMON: Praying to Know God Better ([WATCH SERMON](#)) ([SERMON NOTES](#))

SPEAKER: Pastor Jeremy

CORE SCRIPTURE: [Ephesians 1:15-23](#)



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY

Pastor Jeremy's shared about aligning our prayers with God's priorities, as seen in [Ephesians 1:15-23](#). He emphasized praying to know God personally, understand His plan, and experience His resurrection power. This involves moving beyond self-centered requests to seeking a transformative relationship with God, discerning our unique purpose in His story, and relying on the divine power already available to us through Christ.

SHARE: Share a funny prayer time

Share a funny or unusual thing you've prayed for in the past. How did that prayer reflect your personal desires or circumstances at the time?

DISCUSS

Feel free to pick/choose what is most helpful for you. Remember the goal is to have rich, relational, authentic, Jesus centered discussions.

1. What most stood out to you from the sermon?
2. Read [Ephesians 1:15-23](#) together. What stands out to you about Paul's prayer for the Ephesians?
3. What does it mean to know God personally rather than just knowing facts about him, based on the discussion of Paul's prayer for wisdom and revelation as mentioned in [Eph 1:17](#)?
4. How does understanding God's plan for our lives change the way we approach our daily decisions and long-term goals?
5. What steps can we take to discern God's calling and purpose for our lives, both individually and as a church community? If you have a story to share with church, email dave@cornerstonechurch.ca

6. Pastor Jeremy said that Paul focused more on praying for others' growth in faith rather than for his own comfort. How come Paul did that and what would that mean for us?
7. Share a time when you experienced God's power in your life. How did it change your situation or perspective?

NEXT STEPS

Choose one of the following next steps to take this week.

- **Scripture Engagement:** Choose a passage of Scripture ([Eph 1:15-23](#), Eph [2:1-10](#), [1 Peter 1:3-11](#)) to meditate on this week that speaks to knowing God, His plan, or His power. Share your reflections with the group next week.
- **Acts of Obedience:** Identify one area in your life where you feel God is calling you to step out in faith or obedience. Share this with the group and pray for each other's courage and strength to follow through.

PRAY

Invite the group to take turns praying for one of the areas below. Assign a member to Open and Close the prayer time.

Opening Prayer: Begin with a moment of silence, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your time of prayer.

Praying to Know God Better: Pray for a deeper, personal relationship with God. Ask for the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to know Him more intimately.

Praying to Know God's Plan: Pray for clarity and understanding of God's purpose for each person in the group and for the church as a whole. Ask for guidance in aligning personal and communal goals with God's will.

Praying to Know God's Power: Pray for the awareness and experience of God's resurrection power in the challenges each person is facing. Ask for strength, courage, and faith to rely on His power.

Closing Prayer: Thank God for His presence and guidance during your time together. Pray for His continued work in each person's life throughout the week.