

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 01 Sept 2019 ..... Ephesians 1:1-14..... Rejoice
- 2) 08 Sept..... Ephesians 1:15-23..... Remembered**
- 3) 15 Sept ..... Ephesians 2:1-10..... Resurrected
- 4) 22 Sept ..... Ephesians 2:11-22..... Reconciled
- 5) 29 Sept ..... Ephesians 3:1-13..... Revealed
- 6) 06 Oct ..... Ephesians 3:14-21..... Residence
- 7) 13 Oct ..... Ephesians 4:1-10..... Walking Together
- 8) 20 Oct ..... Ephesians 4:11-16..... Walking Forward
- 9) 27 Oct ..... Ephesians 4:17-32..... Walking Differently
- 10) 03 Nov ..... Ephesians 5:1-14..... Walking in Love
- 11) 10 Nov ..... Ephesians 5:15-21..... Walking Wisely
- 12) 17 Nov ..... Ephesians 5:22-6:4..... Walking as Family
- 13) 24 Nov ..... Ephesians 6:5-20..... Walking to Battle

**INTRODUCTION**

- We are only one generation away from apostasy
- The Ephesians were noted for their love of God and for their love of one another. Yet 30 years later John received word from God that the Ephesians left their first love. .... [Rev 2:4](#)
- Even Paul's prayer for them to have a deepened awareness of God did not last into the next generation. How can we prevent slipping away from our first love of Christ and for His saints?

Passage	Comments
Eph 1:15	<p><b>Ephesians were noted for their faith and love</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How would this be evident in a body of believers?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sacrificial giving? <input type="checkbox"/> High church attendance?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Only 'some' doing ministry? <input type="checkbox"/> Other evidence?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1:16	<p><b>Paul prays for his Ephesian brothers &amp; sisters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul did not cease giving thanks for them.</li> <li>• How do we do this? Consider how prayers were conducted in the Book of Psalms                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <a href="#">Ps 55:17</a>. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1:17	<p><b>Paul prayed specifically for spiritual enlightenment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notice he did not pray for physical, emotional, or financial growth, BUT for spiritual growth... <a href="#">2 Peter 3:18</a></li> <li>• May God give you revelation in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. In other words, may God become real and personal to you ..... <a href="#">Luke 24:32</a></li> </ul>
1:18	<p><b>More Specific Prayer Request for Enlightenment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "May the eyes of your heart (innermost being) be enlightened..." i.e. know His calling &amp; riches of His inheritance. Our faith begins with having the right knowledge, the right foundation, the right doctrine.</li> <li>• Again, Paul did not pray for their physical health and wealth, but for their spiritual health &amp; wealth</li> <li>• This means he actually prayed for more trials and tribulations (e.g. try asking for patience) ..... <a href="#">Ecc 7:4</a></li> <li>• How should we alter our prayers then?</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
1:19-20	<p><b>Surpassing Greatness of His Power to Us</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How little we understand the Power of God, which only comes to those who diligently pray and obey</li> <li>• This power is not in showy wonders, but in the transformation of lives, beginning with SELF                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Consider this. When people came to Jesus looking for more free food, He basically said, 'You don't get it' – you need to focus on spiritual food which endures to eternal life' ..... <a href="#">John 6:25-27</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1:21-23	<p><b>Christ is Above Everything – Past, Present, Future</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So why do we have EVIL? Simple answer – Satan has temporary rule – he is the Prince of the Power of the Air [<a href="#">Eph 2:2</a>]; the god/ruler of this world [<a href="#">Jn 12:31</a>; <a href="#">2Cor 4:4</a>]; and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one [<a href="#">Luke 4:6</a>; <a href="#">1John 5:19</a>]</li> <li>• Christ is not only above all things, He is the Creator of everything..... <a href="#">John 1:1-3</a>, <a href="#">Col 1:16</a>, <a href="#">Eph 3:9</a>, <a href="#">Heb 1:1-3</a></li> <li>• It is amazing to consider the love of God to have Christ die to save the epitome of His Creation – MAN [though not all men would want to be saved]</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- So, how can we prevent slipping away from our first love of Christ and for His saints?
  - ♦ Our prayers for ourselves and others often involve asking for a bigger bank account, more possessions, better health.
  - Consider praying for more spiritual enlightenment for yourself and others – which often comes through trials and tribulation
  - Dare to pray for patience; to be conformed to the image of Christ; to have more love for the brethren and for the lost; to have more and more witnessing opportunities; and to produce more fruit for God's glory (more souls saved & disciplined)
  - ♦ Discipline yourself to be in the word, in prayer, and willfully and lovingly obeying God's commandments – even the small ones, especially in the areas of generosity and kindness

**SUPPORTING PASSAGES:**

- [Ps 8:6](#) You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,
- [Ecc 7:4](#) The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.
- [Luke 24:32](#) And they said one to another, "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?"

**NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 2:1-10.** By grace are we saved, by faith; it is a gift of God; not of works; Yet, if we love God we need to OBEY His commands

