

MOORPARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LENT SERIES STUDY GUIDE

Sermon Discussion Questions for Ephesians 1:15-23
2nd Week [2/11/18]

1. Open your group time with a brief prayer, inviting God's Spirit to lead you.
2. Begin your time together with one minute of silent prayer (timed). Before you do, suggest that in this time of silent prayer, we each might offer all that comes to our minds as a prayer to God, while also opening ourselves to everything God has for us in this time.
3. Now tell everyone you'll start by practicing what's called "Lectio Divina" (prayerful reading). Ask everyone to close their eyes while you slowly read Ephesians 1:15-23 out loud. Ask everyone to LISTEN for the words and phrases that especially speak to each of them.

After reading the passage, pause for a time of silent listening, and then read the passage again slowly. Ask everyone to notice what God is bringing to their attention in this passage as God's loving invitation to them.

4. Now ask everyone to share what has stood out to them. What are God's unique invitations to each person in this passage?
5. Focus on verse 17. What is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation Paul is writing about? Paul says we need this Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that we may know him (God) better. Has there been a time in your life when you have experienced the Spirit of wisdom and/or revelation that Paul is writing about? If so, share your experience with the group.
6. Now focus on the words in verse 18 "the hope which he has called you." What kind of hope is Paul writing about? Do you think we can lose that hope?
7. Read verses 19-21. What is the power Paul is writing about? Do we need this power in order to be a Christian? How does this power help us in our daily lives and in our Christian walk?
8. Why do you think Paul includes the words about Christ being raised from the dead, his being seated in the heavenly realms and his power when he speaks of God in the previous verses?
9. Pray for one another related to all you've shared.

Also pray for any other particular need you've brought to this time.

For next week: Prayerfully live with Ephesians 12:11-22 each day this next week so you can come to our next meeting ready to share what God has said to you.