

DIGDEEPER

August 30, 2015
Ephesians 1:15-18
Dr. Richard Rogers

THE MAIN POINT

Our world, just like that of the Ephesians, is one that compromises truth and shrugs at evil. At times, we can feel hopeless against it. But if we follow the example of Paul by praying for one another, we can have joyful confidence in the power of our God.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. Consider the ways you have seen people in our city (and maybe even those close to you) compromise Biblical truth and shrug at evil. What does Scripture say you should do in light of this present world?
2. Think back to the last time you spent a significant amount of time praying for someone. What sort of things did you ask of God on their behalf? In what ways was it the same and in what ways did it differ from the one Paul prayed in Ephesians 1?
3. We looked at the way the gospel changed the lives of the people mentioned in Hebrews 10:32-36. Take some time to reread that passage and list some of the ways your attitudes, habits, and emotions have been shaped by the gospel. In what ways do you still need to change?
4. Just as no one eats by accident, no one begins to look more like Christ and less like the world on accident. In what ways are you purposefully pursuing “the hope of His calling” and “the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints?”

GO FURTHER

- Read the [Boston Children's Hospital study](#) Richard mentioned on Down Syndrome.
- Check out the piece by Dr. Jim Denison called [The History of Western Thought](#) that we referenced yesterday on why we think the way we think.
- Here are [seven ways to pray for the soul](#) from Dr. John Piper.
- We briefly touched on the AshleyMadison.com scandal. Here are some words of wisdom from Ben Reaach at DesiringGod.org on [how to strengthen your marriage](#).

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

Pick one person this week and spend significant time praying for them the way Paul prayed for the Ephesians. Thank God for them. Ask God to let them see the world as it really is. And, ask God to let them truly know him.

START A CONVERSATION THAT MATTERS

Whether around your dinner table, at work, or in line at the grocery store, ask this question this week to start a Conversation that Matters: **How can I pray for you today?**