



Paul's Prayer (Intercession)

May 18

SERIES: Over April–May we'll be studying 5 famous prayers of the Bible to learn of the 5 major types of prayers in the Bible. Nehemiah 1:4–11 provides a helpful pattern for prayer that includes them all and is known as ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication). *Can you spot them?*

CONTEXT: Intercession (litt. to go between) means to intercede on behalf of someone in prayer (think Jesus the High Priest, our intercessor). Rather than a reactive letter, this letter proactively seeks to establish the Ephesians in the faith (c.f. Acts 19). Here Paul shares passionately of his prayer for the Ephesians. It is a prayer of thanksgiving but also one of intercession ("remembering you in my prayers"). We too are called to pray for others.

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP

- What was the theme of the sermon?
- What was/were the main point/s?
- What was the passage about?
- What stood out to you or provoked you to think?
- What were the key take-aways?

READ PASSAGE: Eph 1:16–19, 3:14–19

QUESTIONS:

1. Discuss: In your own words, what are prayers of intercession (a form of supplication)? Following Nehemiah 1, why do we bring supplications for others before God?
2. Can you think of any other prayers or verses from the Bible on this theme?

3. What is the context of this prayer? How is this important for understanding it?
4. Summarize this prayer in your own words.
5. Is there anything in this prayer you do not understand?
6. What does this prayer teach us about God?
7. What does this prayer teach us about mankind?
8. What do we see/what does this teach us about intercession?
 - a. Are there any secondary lessons?
9. How has studying this prayer changed or deepened your view of prayers of intercession?
10. Can you share a time when you prayed a prayer like this?
11. Having concluded 5 weeks looking at 5 different types of prayers through 5 famous prayers:
 - a. What has the Lord taught you?
 - b. What questions do you still have?
 - c. Where can you grow in your prayer life?

Spring Series:

Date	Prayer	Passage
May 25	Members' Meeting	
June 1	Series: Fruit of the Spirit	