

## *Sermon Notes*

### *Themes from Ephesians*

“Prayer to Open Our Eyes” – Eph. 1:15-19

#### I. Introduction

##### A. An impartial question –

1. How does prayer fit with the sovereignty of God?

##### B. The Trinity has been revealed thus far.

Father – Election

Son – Redeeming

Spirit – Sealing

##### C. Today’s text

1. Ephesians 1:15-19

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Verse 15

1. The Ephesian church was known for both faith and love.  
Revelation 2:1-5; John 13:34-35.

##### B. Verse 16-17

1. Knowledge of God is the gist of the prayer.
  - a. True knowledge (NASV).

##### C. Verses 18-19

1. KARDIA – *heart*, center for intellectual thought and emotion.

##### a. Romans 12:1-2

1. The heart is the place of inclination or bias.
2. The fulcrum analogy—the mind will support emotion, but emotion will not sustain the mind.

##### 2. Three requests

##### a. Hope of his calling.

1. Called **to** something **for** something.

##### b. The hope of the riches of His glory.

1. Viewing God with unveiled face, I Cor. 13:12.

##### c. Incomparability of His great power for us who believe.

1. Four terms are used to describe how much power is present for us now and in the age to come.  
(power, working, strength, might).

#### III. Points for reflection.

A. A Christian church should be known for biblically based doctrine and sacrificial love for one another.

B. The sovereignty of God and our prayer fit together in God’s plan in ways too mysterious to explain. We pray because we need to do so, and God commands it for our benefit.

C. The power of God is manifest to save and deliver us from sin.