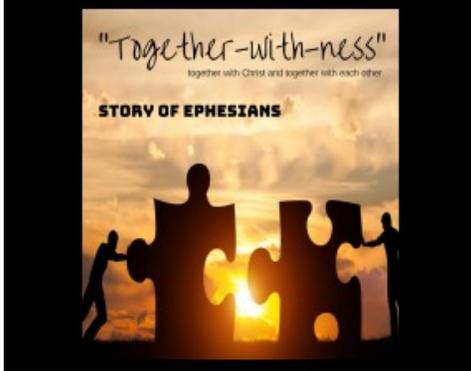
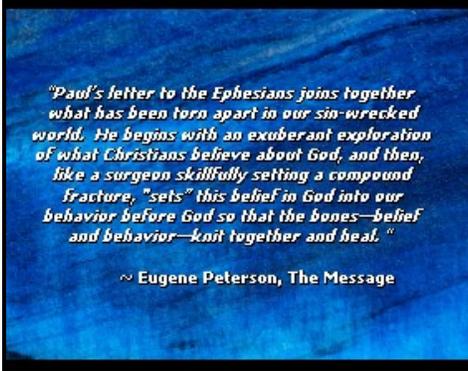


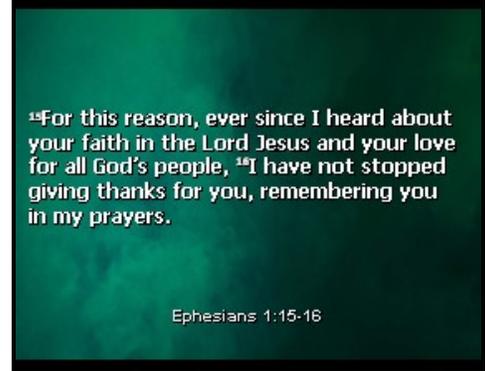
1. Story of Ephesians | 1. page 01



2. "Paul's letter to the 1. Page 1



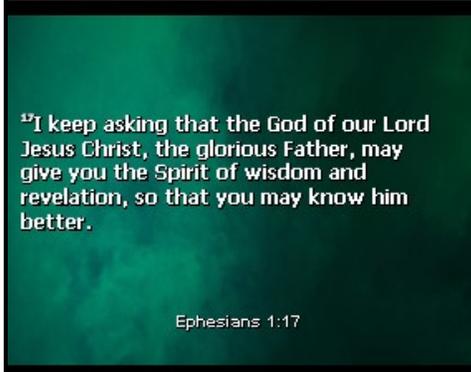
3. Ephesians 1:15-16 (1. Ephesians 1:15-16



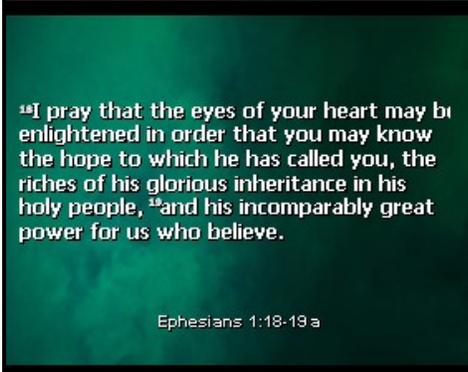
"Paul's letter to the Ephesians joins together what has been torn apart in our sin-wrecked world. He begins with an exuberant exploration of what Christians believe about God, and then, like a surgeon

15For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, 16I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.

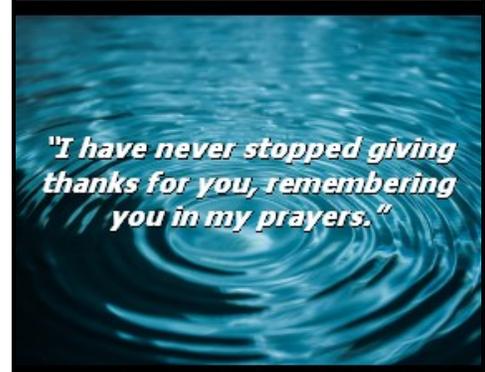
4. Ephesians 1:17 (NI 1. Ephesians 1:17



5. Ephesians 1:18-19 (1. Ephesians 1:18-19



6. "I have never stopp 1. Page 1

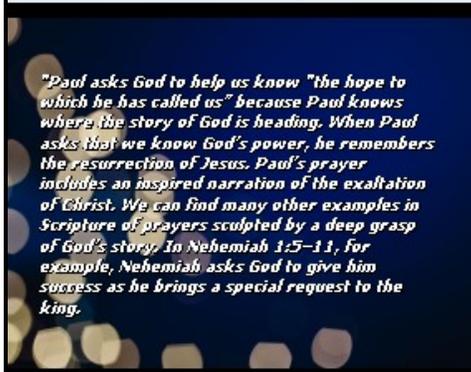


17I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

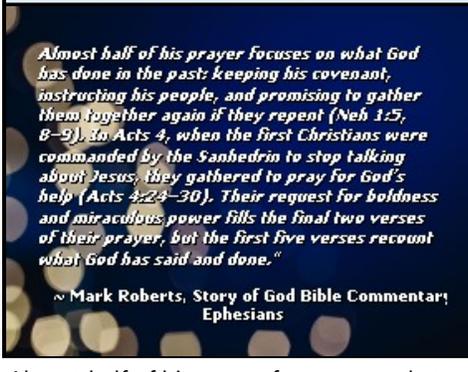
18I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19and his incomparably great

"I have never stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."

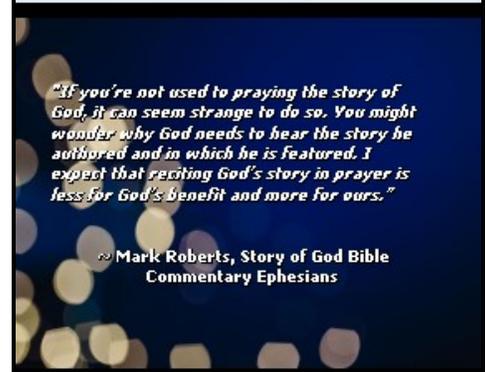
7. "Paul asks God to h 1. Page 1



7. "Paul asks God to h 2. Page 2



8. "If you're not used 1. Page 1



"Paul asks God to help us know "the hope to which he has called us" because Paul knows where the story of God is heading. When Paul asks that we know God's power, he remembers the resurrection of Jesus.

Almost half of his prayer focuses on what God has done in the past: keeping his covenant, instructing his people, and promising to gather them together again if they repent (Neh 1:5, 8-9). In Acts 4, when

"If you're not used to praying the story of God, it can seem strange to do so. You might wonder why God needs to hear the story he authored and in which he is featured. I expect that reciting God's story

9. "being thankful for 1. Page 1

"being thankful for the trustworthiness of God....concentrating on God's character and his actions in history. Beginning with praise and thanksgiving pulls me out of my subjective hullabaloo and turns my thoughts to God's reliability, which He has proven again and again. Trusting God is first of all a matter of remembering who He is and what he has done for us."

~ Howard E. Butt Jr.

"being thankful for the trustworthiness of God....concentrating on God's character and his actions in history. Beginning with praise and thanksgiving pulls me out of my subjective hullabaloo and turns my

10. Remembering all † 1. Page 1

Remembering all these things, in prayer, before God, was a poignant reminder that God is 'an ever present help' who is 'always at work to this very day' and 'act on behalf of those who wait on him' – all promises in his scriptures that we can pray back to him.

(Ps 46:1; John 5:17; Is 64:4)

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11. Ephesians 1:19-23 1. Ephesians 1:19-23

¹⁹That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:19b-23

19That power is the same as the mighty strength 20he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21far above all rule and authority, power and

12. "We will know wh: 1. Page 1

"We will know what it means for Christ to be our Savior when we remember how God saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. We will know Christ as our Redeemer when we see him in the story that begins with creation and ends with the new creation. Knowing God, therefore, isn't something fixed and static, some list of facts that we master and then move on to other things. Rather, it is a lifelong growing in our understanding and experience of God. The prayer in Ephesians 1:15-22 reminds us that no matter how well we think we know God, there is always more to be known."

~ Mark Roberts, Story of God Bible Commentary Ephesians

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13. PRAYER: An incre. 1. Page 1

PRAYER: An increase in listening to God and acting on his teaching, knowing that God is always speaking.

FORMATION: Continued flourishing of Connect Groups with increased participation with the addition of at least one new Connect Group this year. Embracing increased discipleship with the groups along with increased impact both within and beyond our Forge community.

PRAYER: An increase in listening to God and acting on his teaching, knowing that God is always speaking.