



Series: Identity, Who You Are in Christ
Passage: Ephesians 1:15-23
Title: Four Things God Wants You to Know
Speaker: Pastor David Menard 4/24/2026

Discussion Starter –We are coming to the season of graduations, also called commencements. How do these 2 very different words accurately describe the same event? What has been achieved? What is just beginning? How are these views related? Can our point of salvation be described as a graduation? Or is it more meaningfully described as a commencement?

Read Ephesians 1:15-16

1. What does Paul’s response to pray reveal about his faith and love for the Church of Jesus Christ? How does he try to encourage the church toward “love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24-25)? How is Paul reflecting the heart of God?
 - a. How do you respond to someone who says, “I love God, but have trouble with the church?”

Read Ephesians 1:17-21

2. In light of Paul having just described in great detail all of God’s blessings on the Ephesians, why does He pray for their wisdom and revelation? In what way is “the knowledge of Him” a pre-condition to this wisdom and revelation?
 - b. How does the biblical use of “knowledge” differ from being able to pass a test on God’s attributes?
 - c. What evidences or benefits can we expect to see in our lives as we grow in the knowledge of Him? (See Romans 12:1-2)
3. What is God’s calling on your life? What does it mean to (theoretically) know your calling while not experiencing the hope that accompanies the call?
 - d. Whose lives and how many lives do you hope to influence as you walk in your calling?
4. What are the riches of the saints we are inheriting because of His work, (see Eph 1:3-14)?
 - e. What is the difference between theoretically knowing about these riches, and having experiential familiarity in our daily lives?
5. How does Paul describe God’s power that He employs on our behalf? What is the physical evidence of this power? Compare this verse with Romand 8:31-32. What power does God exercise on our behalf?

Read Ephesians 1:22-23

6. What is meant by the term, “all things”? What role do we, the church, have in His rule over all creation?
7. After reading Paul’s prayer for the Ephesians, how is their salvation seen more as a commencement, (the equipping of a life to be lived for greater things), than as a graduation, (resting after reaching a goal)?