

Dear Church (Part 18)
“Finish Well” [Eph. 6:19-24]
August 27th, 2017

HomeGroup and Personal Study Questions

- In this final text from the Letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul asks for prayer, offers encouragement, and extends a prayer of blessing. What do you think of this example as a model for our interactions within community? Do you think there is specific purpose within the form of this model? Explain your thoughts.
- The prayer Paul asks his readers to pray is, “Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel...”
 - Do you consider this a prayer for yourself or others or both? Explain your thoughts.
 - If you were to describe what Paul is asking in this prayer, how would you describe it?
 - Can you explain the “mystery of the gospel?” Please explain your understanding of this great mystery.
 - How would you describe an example of a fearless explanation of the mystery of the gospel?
- Paul introduces his friend and fellow spiritual worker, Tychicus (pronounced “Too—khee—cus”); while introductions are good and sometimes necessary, do you think there is another reason this introduction is included in this Letter to the Ephesians? What is the relevance for our life and community today to “know that Tychicus was on the way?”
- The Letter to the Ephesians closes with a benediction to the Church. Why might you think a benediction or blessing is important? Do you think a benediction should be a regular part of our meetings? Why or why not—please give reason for your response.
- If you have multiple translations to compare, read Paul’s final blessing (Eph. 6:23-24). Do the various differences lead you to different interpretations of the blessing? Can you provide examples? Do you have a preference? If yes, can you explain why you prefer one translation of the blessing over the other?
- Concluding our study through Ephesians, how would you grade your experience? Have you learned new insight? Has your heart been encouraged? Do you feel that you’ve grown as a Christian and moved closer, more devoted, to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Consider writing a letter (email) to your pastor to share your experience.