

## Ephesians 1:15-23 – Knowing God



We live in a society which is hostile to the idea of "knowing God". As Chris quoted, we are surrounded by the "contestability" of this.

With this background, this is the second part of our series on "here's what we do know."

Chris gave three reasons from Paul's relationship with the Ephesians why we can be confident we know God.

1. He has *heard about their faith* (v15) – believing is something that happened to them. They had been born again. There is personal experience involved, which is the same for us. We recall a time we believed or were baptised.
2. He had heard about *their love for God's people* (v15). Faith makes a difference in us, changes our attitudes and behaviour. There are results.
3. Their faith was *in Jesus Christ* (v15). This is objective. Our faith and knowing God rests on the fact that Jesus died for us and was raised from the dead.

He then went on to show that we *grow in the knowledge of God* – we get to know him better (v17), and this is something we can *keep asking for* (v16).

Finally, he showed three results of knowing God.

1. *Hope* (v18) – that goes even beyond death.
2. *Inheritance* (v18) – all things are ours and we ultimately receive them with him.
3. *Power* (v19)- overcoming the challenges of life, even when we're weak.

### Questions

1. Read through the passage (Ephesians 1:15-23) again.
2. Share *your experience*: when did you believe in Jesus. How have you changed?
3. How can we make *growing in the knowledge of God* a priority?
4. What do you understand by our *hope* and our *inheritance*?
5. Share some ways you have experienced the *power* of God in your lives. How can we continue to know that power?