

Sunday 6th February – Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul writes in verse 16 that he has not stopped giving thanks for the Ephesians. Begin together by sharing what you are thankful for – and giving thanks to God together.

Read Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul was writing to a people who were facing oppression from lots of people – and powers. How does his thanksgiving and prayer encourage them to have a different perspective on the world and their circumstances?

What are the things that we can easily look around to that we find discouraging? Are there particular personal storms of life that you're facing at the moment?

Colin spoke on Sunday about being 'hope empowered'. The power of God spoken of in verse 19 is an energising and strengthening power that we might know His hope. How have you been inspired by God's power or God's people? Where do you find encouragement and hope?

Are there ways we can lessen the impact of the discouraging voices around us (perhaps the doom and gloom often found in the news), and give more attention to the bigger picture that Paul draws our attention to in Ephesians 1?

Hebrews 6:19 says 'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure'. How does the hope described in verse 18-19 help secure you in the storms of life?

Spend time in prayer that we – and the whole church – might be 'hope empowered' as we look towards the future together.