

## HBC Lifegroup Pulpit Curriculum

### Living by Christ's Provision – Ephesians 1:15-23

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*This material is designed to help give you ideas for discussing the sermon profitably. We trust the lifegroup leaders to choose the questions that will be most helpful to their groups. No one should feel obligated to complete ALL the questions. The reason there is so much material is to offer guidance for those who would like to further study the topic during their devotion times during the week. In our experience, many people need some direction for devotions in order to actually have them.*

#### **Introduction**

Sunday's sermon began with an illustration of a wealthy 93 year old man who died of hypothermia inside his home during a freezing cold winter. This man had his heat cut off after refusing to pay a \$1100.00 electrical bill and it was later discovered that he had more than \$600,000.00 in his bank account. Pastor Kurt used this as a picture of the evangelical church today. We have at our disposal unlimited spiritual resources yet do not access them.

- **Do you agree and if so why do you think this is the case?**

Kurt attributed two reasons. (1) The resources are unknown (2) Lack of faith. The sermon then emphasized the need for "understanding of Christ" to come before our "actions toward Christ."

- **What danger exists if we attempt to serve God without knowing Who He is first?**
- **If you were discipling a new Christian what are some ways that you would encourage them to consider their motives for serving God?**

What we know as Christians should impact how we live. **Read Ephesians 1:15-23** together. The first point of this week's message was (1) Know your provision. The first provision in verse 17 is "a spirit of wisdom." Our human spirit responds to the Holy Spirit's Wisdom through Scripture.

- **On a scale of 1-10 how would you rate your spirit of wisdom? What passage did Kurt suggest reading? How has God's wisdom served you in recent weeks?**

The second provision in verse 17 is "the revelation of the knowledge of Him." Kurt mentioned that we need to stretch our arms around God's Word and our understanding of who He is.

- **What are some ways that God has really stretched your understanding of Him?**
- **Read Matthew 4:4. How many physical meals do you eat every week? How many spiritual meals do you have? Is Sunday's sermon your only sermon for the week?**

God desires that we have full knowledge of Him. Jesus Christ is our greatest provision. Three essential Scriptures of knowing our provision in Christ are Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 17:3; Philippians 3:10.

- **How well do you think you would know someone that you spend hours and hours with each week?**

Our level of interest in God can be measured by the level that we seek and pursue Him.

- **How has your pursuit of God increased or decreased in the recent weeks? What are three ways that you can increase your pursuit of God?**

The second point of the sermon was (2) To live by His promises. "To be effective in Christ you must be reflective on Christ." **Read 2 Corinthians 1:20-22.** How do these promises impact you?

Please pray for additional pastoral staff to come soon.

**Gospel Memory Verses – Romans 3: 23; Isaiah 53: 6 – All Have Sinned  
Romans 6: 23; Hebrews 9: 27 – Sin's Penalty**