TALK IT OVER

Our Talk It Over is designed to prompt insights and dialogue based on the life experience of each participant. Using these in a group setting after hearing the message is similar to the practices of the early church in Israel. Choose just one or a few of the questions to consider this week. It's also a great tool for individual reflection.

READ



Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

Ephesians 1:15-23 NLT

DISCUSS/CONSIDER

1. What phrase from Paul's prayer in Ephesians stands out to you right now and why?

2. When in your normal day could you pause and pray that line during Advent?

APPLY

Pick one moment that already happens every day...maybe while your coffee's brewing, or just before you start the car. Use that moment to turn your phrase into a prayer.

PRAY

Father, help us know you better. Open our eyes to the hope you've already given us. Where we feel worn down or afraid, help us trust the power that raised Jesus from the dead. As we get ready for Christmas, give us joy in remembering that Jesus came near, and hope in knowing that he is still King. In Jesus' name, amen.