

## Grasping what you have in Jesus

*Eph 1:14-23*

3 stages to Christian life outlined in ch 1:

- Finding the saviour v2
- Learning the facts v3-14
- Experiencing the reality of salvation v15-23

Initial lessons:

- Christians are people who trust Jesus and love God's people v15-16
- We need to pray for each other v15 – Paul shows us how – v17-23

### **1. Pray that you will Grasp your relationship with God v17**

- What is the greatest thing you could pray for anyone?
- Our great problem is that we forget who God is
- Paul wants God's people to grasp the relationship that they have
- How? Not some mystical experience
- Think on the imagery of God used in the Bible until you feel the impact of it. Try to 'see' it.

### **2. Pray that you will Grasp where you are going v18a**

- God has called us to a new and exciting world
- All the Christian's pain and loss is here
- All the non-Christian's pleasure and profit is here
- This gives us hope amidst trials and illness; gives us a sense of priority; gives us a sense of delighted urgency to share the *good* news
- We are to fix our eyes on the prize

### **3. Pray that you will Grasp your status with God v18b**

- Balance in the Bible – we are simultaneously saved and sinful
- Too often we get it out of balance – see selves only as failures
- God redresses that balance
- Not our riches in view here, but God's riches – WE are his riches! (also Exodus 19:5-6)
- Because of Jesus we are precious – he will not let go of us
- As we grasp this we start to live up to it

### **4. Pray that you will grasp your help from God v19-23**

- Christian life isn't easy. We are called to strive, struggle and wrestle
- But we don't do it on our own. We are to keep going to God for strength
- This is resurrection power – power to live, power that brings life
- Nothing can resist this power
- That power is directed for the good of God's people – v22-23

# Milford RPC

www.milfordrpc.org

Sabbath 20th July 08

## Notices

There will be a church lunch today after the service. You are all invited to stay. It will be an opportunity to get to know the Go Team.

Sab Evening Service at Day Centre 8pm

July 20-25 Milford Go Team

Team activities will include:-

Prayer time each morning

Seminar on evangelism each morning

Magazine distribution in Milford and surrounding places each afternoon

Door-to-door work in Milford in the evening seeing if people would be interested in doing a Christianity Explored course

Fri 25th Congregational BBQ on Friday evening at Liam & Karen McFadden's home starting between 7.00 and 7.30 pm

Liam & Karen's is on the Ramelton - Rathmullan road, just before Ray bridge. About 3rd house before the bridge - a dormer bungalow with garage to the left.

Sab 27th Meeting before church for congregation to discuss what Martin & Anne will say on the 30th. Meet at 11.15am if you are able to make it.

Wed 30th Presentation of the Call from Kellswater to Mark 8pm at Faughan RP Church

Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to come to the meeting. Martin Crossin and Anne McMahon will be speaking on behalf of Milford.

Please keep Mark & Judith in your prayers as they consider where God would have them serve.

Minister: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@milfordrpc.org  
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