

## Claim God's Partnership

*“For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, <sup>20</sup>which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.”*

- Ephesians 1:15-23

### In This Series...

1. We'll encourage God's children to think differently about who they are in Christ.
2. We'll understand many of our benefits in Christ.
3. We'll celebrate all that's ours through Christ.

### The Response of the Righteous

*“For this reason, ever since I heard about **your faith** in the Lord Jesus and **your love** for all the saints...”*

- Ephesians 1:15

1. Their faith in the Lord Jesus
2. Their love for “all the saints”

### The Perspective of Paul

<sup>16</sup>*“I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.”*

1. Giving thanks
2. Remembering you in my prayers
  - Asking God to give you...
    1. Wisdom
    2. Revelation
    3. Better knowledge of God

- An enlightened heart

1. Hope
2. Riches
3. Power

### The Power Behind the Partnership

*“That power is like the working of His mighty strength, <sup>20</sup>which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.”*

- Ephesians 1:19-21

1. Christ is placed over all (far above)
  - a. Rule & authority (leader and first one)
  - b. Power & dominion (dynamite)
  - c. Every title that can be given
  - d. Now and in the future
2. Everything is placed under Him
3. Christ heads the church
  - a. The body
  - b. The fullness of Him who fills everything

*“...so in Christ we who are many form one body, and **each member belongs to all the others.**”*

- Romans 12:5

*“May they be brought to complete unity **to let the world know** that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”* - John 17:23

### What Do We Learn?

1. If you are a believer, you are part of the team!
2. Whenever we function effectively in our part of the Body, the partnership grows stronger.
3. The reason for our partnership is to be seen by a watching world.
 

*“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

- Matthew 5:16
4. It's who you know, not what you know.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_
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