

When You Haven't Got a Prayer

Ephesians 1:15-23; 3:14-21

You recall a friend whom you haven't seen or heard from in a while. You feel prompted to pray for them but you don't know what their needs are. How do you pray for them?

In Paul's prayers in Ephesians, we find two things we can pray for on behalf of other believers—understanding and a stronger faith.

☐ Pray that they will understand who they are in Christ (1:15-23)

Following Paul's example, we can pray that our friends will:

- Come to know God intimately (17)
- so that they will know three facts:
 - the *past* call of salvation that produced hope (18a)
 - the *future* inheritance that God has in his saints (18b)
 - the *present* power of God that is available to believers (19)

☐ Pray that they will become stronger spiritually (3:14-21)

Following Paul's example, we can pray that God will strengthen our friends in four areas:

- Strengthened with power (16-17a)
- Have deep roots and firm foundations (17b)
- Comprehend the love of Christ in all its dimensions (18-19a)
- Be filled up to God's fullness (19b)