

### Prayer for the Church

(1.28.2024)

Ephesians 1:20-23

What does the Bible, God's word, say about the church? How does God view the church? To understand this, we must first delve into the words of the Bible. And the Holy Spirit needs to grant us wisdom and revelation so that our eyes may be opened to the church.

In today's passage, we see the Apostle Paul praying for the Ephesian church while in prison. He confesses, "God has appointed Christ as the head of the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way."

Through today's passage, we want to explore what the church is and what kind of church it should be. We also want to examine what kind of church Hanwoori Church should be and how we should pray for it.

### Firstly, Jesus is the head of the church (verse 22).

In today's verses 20-21, we see that through God's power, Jesus was resurrected and ascended to heaven, sitting at the right hand of God. God exalted Jesus above all, and in verse 22, we learn that Jesus, the exalted and glorious one, is appointed as the head of the church.

To declare Jesus as the head of the church means acknowledging Him as the most crucial person and the Lord. The church must be under the rule and control of Jesus (Matthew 16:16-18). Since those who confess Jesus as Lord gather in the church, it is evident that the owner and head of the church are Jesus Christ. The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ, and He is the most important person in the church.

### Secondly, the church is the body of Jesus (verse 23).

In verse 23, Apostle Paul confesses and prays that the church is the body of Jesus. It is essential to understand what it means for the church to be the body of Jesus. Firstly, it means that the church is Jesus Himself (Acts 9:4). Additionally, because the church is the body of Christ, various members must become one through Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12, 21-27). Being the body of Christ means manifesting Jesus, doing what Jesus intended, and fulfilling His purposes.

#### Thirdly, the church should be filled with Jesus (verse 23).

The church is where Jesus, who can fill the entire world, should dwell abundantly. The church needs to be filled with Jesus so that the world can be filled with Jesus. When the church is filled with Christ, it becomes truly church-like. The church should be filled with the character, love, and fragrance of Jesus. Most importantly, this fullness implies a lack of emptiness, signifying satisfaction. True satisfaction is found in Jesus Christ. The church, filled with Jesus, should reveal genuine happiness to the world. The only true answer and hope in the world is Jesus Christ.

Now, as believers, we should seek the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Jesus Christ within us, to dwell abundantly and work in us. We desire Jesus to be our satisfaction and abundance. We pray for Jesus' fullness to overflow within us and within our church.

# Bīble Memorī -zatīon

## A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 18:18)

# Bīble Readīng

1/29(Mon)	1/30(Tue)	1/31(Wed)	2/1(Thur)	2/2(Fri)	2/3(Sat)	2/4(Sun)
Exodus 13-15	Exodus 16-18	Exodus 19-21	Exodus 22-25	Exodus 26-28	Exodus 29-31	Exodus 32-34

# QT

## Quiet Time Passage

1/22(Mon)	1/23(Tue)	1/24(Wed)	1/25(Thur)	1/26(Fri)	1/27(Sat)	1/28(Sun)
Mark 10:17-31	Mark 10:32-45	Mark 10:46-52	Mark 11:1-10	Mark 11:11-19	Mark 11:20-33	Mark 12:1-12

# Sharīng Questī*o*ns

- 1. Please share any new realizations or grace you received through today's sermon.
- 2. Reflect on whether you have Jesus as the head of your life.
- 3. Discuss how you can live as a part of Jesus' body.
- 4. Let's pray together for the church to be filled with Jesus.