Ephesians 1:15-23 (ESV)  

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

John 15:7 (ESV) If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

There are 3 main parts to this text:
1. Thanksgiving (Eph. 1:15-16)
2. Intercession (Eph. 1:17-19)
3. Praise (Eph. 1:20-23)

1. Thank God for evidences of grace in His people.

Ephesians 1:15-16 (ESV)  

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,

Paul is thankful for two important characteristics of God’s people:
(1) faith in the Lord Jesus, and (2) love for the saints.

2. Ask God for divine illumination.

Ephesians 1:17-20 (ESV)  

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

Luke 24:31-32 (ESV)  

31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”

Luke 24:45 (ESV) Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,
Psalm 119:18 (ESV) Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

Psalm 119:34 (ESV) Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Psalm 119:135 (ESV) Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

Why do we need God to open our spiritual eyes?

- To know God better (Eph. 1:17b)
- To know the blessings of the Gospel better (Eph. 1:18-20)

3. Praise God for His exaltation of Christ!

Ephesians 1:20-23 (ESV) 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fulness of him who fills all in all.

4 aspects of Christ’s exaltation:

A. Christ’s Resurrection (Eph. 1:20a)
B. Christ’s Enthronement (Eph. 1:20b)

Psalm 110:1 (ESV) The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

C. Christ’s Supremacy (Eph. 1:21-22a)
D. Christ’s Headship (Eph. 1:22b-23)