Nov 24/24 "The riches of His grace" – (Small Groups)

Read Ephesians, Chapter one.

- 1. Tom Wright suggests learning the letter to the Ephesians. Have you committed any scripture verses, lines from hymns/songs, other, to memory?
- 2. Do those memorised words come to mind, if so when?
- 3. In the words of the Apostles Creed we declare our faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

4. Are there times when you doubt those words? [If so, do you think that you are the only one who has doubts?] How do you address those doubts, ie prayer, talking with a friend or spiritual advisor, reading scripture or other books? Saying them anyway or not saying anything?

5. St Paul reminds us that "we have redemption through [Christ's blood] and the forgiveness of sins." Does saying sorry come easily to you or do you struggle sometimes? Are you able to accept God's forgiveness and not try to 'rearrange' the past.

Finally consider praying Paul's prayer together

"that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give us the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of our hearts enlightened, that we may know what is the hope to which he has called us, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe." Amen