

Praying With Paul

#2 ~ Ephesians 3:14-21 ~ *To Know The Love of Christ*

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

'Prayer for Spiritual Strength'

"For this reason..."

- the GRACE and MERCY of God (2:1-10);
- the UNIFYING power and scope of the gospel (2:11-3:6);
- Paul's own MINISTRY (3:7-3:12);
- Paul's desire for the Ephesian saints NOT TO LOSE HEART (3:13)

A word on posture

- 'bow my knees'
 - reverent submission
 - humble need

- 'before the Father'
 - *All our prayers are 'family prayers'*

Paul prays that God might grant you to be...

- strengthened with power through his Spirit in their inner being.

- SO THAT...
 - Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

- SO THAT...
 - being rooted and grounded in love

 - you might have the strength to comprehend the vast, incomprehensible love of God!
 - "TO KNOW WHAT YOU CANNOT KNOW"

- THAT...
 - we might be FILLED with all the fullness of God!

Prayer which ends with Praise