

EPHESIANS

WHO I AM AND WHY IT MATTERS

So far in our Ephesians study, we've learned that we're chosen by God and adopted into His family. We've learned what it looks like to have a firm faith and a deep love for one another. We've learned about salvation from A to Z, namely that we start dead in our sins, then God makes us alive and new through faith in Jesus which sets us on a course for a life of good works. Last week we learned that through the power of the gospel, Jews and Gentiles have the opportunity to join together into one spiritually unified family through Jesus Christ. Today we'll look at Paul's prayer for the Ephesian church and find compelling reasons to grow in prayer.

Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-21

Discussion Questions:

1. Looking back at your sermon notes, what encouraged or challenged you the most?
2. What motivated Paul to pray? Do you view prayer as an opportunity or obligation? What can we do to see prayer as a delightful invitation rather than something we "ought to do"?
3. What does Ephesians 3:14-15 reveal about the nature of God? How does recognizing God as Father impact your identity and sense of relationship with Him?
4. In Ephesians 3:16-17, Paul prays for God to strengthen the inner being of the Ephesian believers with power through the Holy Spirit. What does it mean to be strengthened in your inner being? How does the Holy Spirit empower our lives? See Romans 8:16.
5. In Ephesians 3:18-19, Paul describes the scope of God's love. Why do you think it was important for Paul to paint this picture of God's love? What does it mean when he prays that believers would be filled with the fullness of God? What impact can a genuine experience of God's love have on us?
6. In Ephesians, 3:20-21 Paul says that God can do far more than we can ask or think. Do you ever find that you limit your expectations of what God can do in a situation? How should these verses influence the way we pray and thus glorify God?
7. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on applying in your life this week?