

Unleashing the Power of Prayer - A Stronger Inner Man

Scripture: Ephesians 3:16-21

Also: Ephesians 1:17-19 (from last week)

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. In this week's sermon, we went through another one of the New Testament prayers.
 - What did you learn about prayer?
 - How will it impact your own praying?
3. Read Ephesians 3:16-21, then review the breakdown of the segments of the prayer.
 - The primary request is in verse 16: To be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man
 - The results of Paul's request (the "SO THAT") are in verses 17-19:
 - Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith
 - Rooted and grounded in love
 - Able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ
 - Filled up to all the fullness of God
 - The expectation is found in verse 20: Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us
 - And the motivation for the prayer is in verse 21: To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever
4. How does Paul's prayer request compare with some of your own?
5. Is it possible that we as North American Christians pray most for what we value most? For instance, if we are marked by praying mostly for things like health and travel, or circumstantial comfort/ease, what does that tell us about our values?
6. What are your prayers most characterized by?
7. If we want to make a shift about the content of our prayers, where should one begin? Just trying to pray differently, or asking God to transform our values? Something else?
8. What would it look like to pray for our (and others') spiritual strength more than for our circumstances?

Pray Ephesians 3:16-21 for yourself and then for others (family & friends, church, community & world).