

# Together in Prayer

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, March 14, 2021; Craig Hurty

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**Sermon Theme: A prisoner like Paul did not seem to be an instrument of God's power, but he prays a prayer that Christians do well to emulate. We can ask the Father for strength and learning through his Spirit in order to serve Christ in our life together as the church. As we gain a greater understanding of Christ's love, we expand our capacity to love one another and glorify God.**

## **I. Prayer for Strength Together – Read Ephesians 3:14-16**

- A. On what basis was Paul able to approach God the Father with such boldness under difficult circumstances? When are you bold in your prayers? When do you avoid praying and why?
- B. If the Father grants strength “according to the riches of his glory” (v.16), what does that mean for the church? How does it impact your heart when you see God strengthening his children?
- C. Can we see the power of the Holy Spirit strengthening us? In what ways is this strength made evident in our lives? How do verses 17-19 make clear that, through prayer, strength from the Father is available to all believers? Why is that so important for us to understand?

## **II. Prayer for Learning Together – Read Ephesians 3:17-19a**

- A. What does Paul mean when he prays that “Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” (v.17)? How is that significant for us both individually and corporately as a church?
- B. What is the outcome when believers are “rooted and grounded” in love? How is this connected to the challenges, trials and difficulties in our lives?
- C. How would you answer if you were asked if there is a limit to a Christian's capacity to love? Why is it important to know the love of Christ as we live in community with our brothers and sisters in Christ? How would you like to grow in your love for your church family?

## **III. Prayer for Service Together – Read Ephesians 19b-21**

- A. If God's fullness or perfection is the standard or level to which we pray to be filled, what does that imply for our prayers? What is the difference between asking wrongly (James 4:3) with evil motives versus expecting God to be generous with us?
- B. Do you express confidence in the Father's power when you pray? Do you trust Him enough to hold nothing back from Him as you seek to serve the Lord Jesus Christ? Or are you timid?
- C. Describe the significance of our assurance in verse 21 that the Father will be glorified in the church and in Christ Jesus. How does this assurance help us to proclaim the gospel?