

Is There A King In Your Heart?

Ephesians 3:14-  
17a Message

**Pray for God to give each of us inner strength so that Christ will keep expanding His controlling influence in our hearts.**

# Paul's Three Requests (Eph 3:14-17a)

- I. Paul resumed his prayer started in v. 1 (3:14-15)
- II. Paul made three requests for believers (3:16-19)
  - A. Request 1: Inner strength (16-17a)



“The Father from whom every fatherhood is named”

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Father (*pater*)

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Fatherhood (*patria*) - some translations read “family”

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All fatherhood comes from God, the original father

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God is the Father of all fathers, the greatest of all fathers

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“To the supreme Father do I bring my requests...”

# What can we learn about this inner strength?

*Who He is, sets the standard for how He gives.*

This strengthening is a gift from God

It is furnished according to God's inexhaustible resources

It is accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit

It takes place in the inner man

It is for the purpose of Christ taking possession of more and more of us

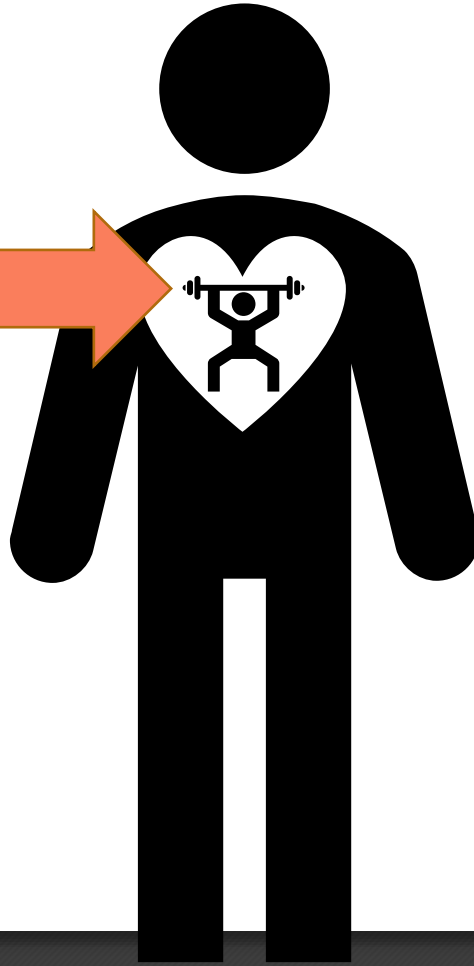
# “Inner Man”

*The ‘mind’ or the ‘heart’*

*Where thinking, decision-making, motive, will, and emotions take place*

*It is our moral, spiritual and intellectual center*

*It is where we apply our moral character to making choices*



## Christ renovates...

Our thinking

Our motives

Our attitudes

Our desires

He makes all of  
this more pleasing  
to Him

Christ living in us  
“consists in His governing  
us by His Spirit and  
directing all our actions”  
(John Calvin, *NT  
Commentaries*, vol. 11,  
p. 43)

**How does Jesus renovate our  
inner man?**



# How are we strengthened so our hearts provide an environment yielded to Christ?

This requires that we respond in faith

Humbly trust that Christ knows what He's doing

Learn to depend on Christ's strength



Yieldedness is the result of growing spiritually stronger

Learn to view your experiences from His perspective

This should result in more consistent obedience