

3-20-22 Facilitator – Ephesians 3:14-19 Radical, Personal Dependence

1. Launchers:

- Like a black out, what troubles or pressures zap you of your energies?
- How does your understanding of God's power and love provide the reliability/backstop you need to stop the spread of worry and anxiety?

2. Worship: Read John 17:3, 22-26. Praise God for the intimacy we have in Jesus.

3. Sermon Reflection: Ephesians 3:14-19 Radical, Personal Dependence

GOD'S POWER TO THE HUMBLE

- Why do we need help? And what is necessary to motivate us to *ask* for help?
- Why is it so difficult for us to ask for help?
- Why do we resist bowing?
- What are the consequences of not asking for help
 - in relationships with our neighbors?
 - In relationships with our Father in Heaven, Jesus and Holy Spirit?

IT'S RADICAL

- Why does it matter that God's power to love is *in our inner being*?
- Why do we need more than cosmetic change?
- Why do we need a new heart?

IT'S PERSONAL

- And why is it significant that this power is imparted so personally?
- What does it mean to be intimate with God?
- ARE you Personally, Romantically, Emotionally Smitten with God?

4. Kingdom Centered Prayer:

1. Worship the LORD for making Himself known so that we may truly know Him. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for how He is trustworthy in all that He commands and promises.

2. How have you lived treating God with a demanding spirit, rather than simply loving and trusting Him? Confess your pride and selfishness to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and heal your heart.

3. Give thanks to Jesus for loving us as His Bride and giving His life to remove our sin and change our nature. Thank Him for taking away our guilt (by His death) and giving us His love (by His indwelling Spirit).

4. Who do you know that lives independently rather than trusting Jesus? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them to see 1) their need of Him, and 2) that He is more trustworthy than anyone or anything.

5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and faithfulness. Pray for Him to grow in you a glad heart of trust and dependence upon His power, love and wisdom rather than trusting in your own abilities.

5. Mission: **Relationship with God – Personal or Transactional**

- Ask your neighbors, friends, co-workers, and enemies if your relationship with them is relational-, love based or transaction, performance based? How could it change?
- Ask your friends if they sense your friendship with God is based on love/delight or performance/doings?
- How does a relationship recover from performance based to enjoyment based?