

A BLUEPRINT FOR PRAYER

Ephesians 3:14 – 19 March 26, 2023 Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 (ESV)

Three Great Prayers:

Ephesians 3:14 – 19 (ESV)

14 — For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

15 — from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,

16 — that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being,

17 — so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith — that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 — may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

19 — and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

— Ephesians 3:14 (ESV)

• Pray for a greater strength through Christ's love

— Ephesians 3:16

but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. — Romans 5:8 (ESV)

• Pray for a greater foundation in Christ's love

— Ephesians 3:17

"There is no love so great and so wonderful as that which is in the heart of Christ." — Jonathan Edwards

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. — Romans 8:37 – 39 (ESV)

• Pray for a greater encounter with Christ's love

— Ephesians 3:18 – 19 (ESV)

Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. — Matthew 11:28 – 29 (ESV)



... but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, — Romans 5:20 (ESV)

"Christ is love covered over in the flesh." — Thomas Goodwin

— Ephesians 3:17 (ESV)

Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him ... — Ephesians 3:17 (NLT)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Share some names of people that you are praying for and inviting to Easter Sunday.
- Read Ephesians 3:14. Who are some people that you know have "fallen on their knees" in prayer for you? How has God used them to impact and change your life?
- How does experiencing and knowing Christ's love strengthen us? Go around the room and share some adjectives that describe Christ's love.
- What key truth did you take away from the teaching this Sunday?
- Read Ephesians 3:17. Jonathan Edwards once said, *"There is no love so great and so wonderful as that which is in the heart of Christ."* Why is understanding Christ's love part of the foundation of our spiritual blueprint?
- Read Romans 8:37 39. Why is this promise so foundational to our life in Christ? Describe the promise in your own words.
- Which do you think you need more right now and why to be STRENGTHENED in God's love, GROUNDED in God's love or ENCOUNTERING God's love in a greater way?



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