

Week of September 10 - The Fullness of God Small Group Lesson 8

Connect

When we have an unreasonable request to ask the Father, should we ask anyway? Would it be better to first consider if it is reasonable, and if it is not then not ask?

Verses - Ephesians 3:14-21 (CSB)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. 16 I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, 19 and to know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us— 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Study

Please answer these simple but important questions about today's verses:

1. For what reason or why… (Ephesians 3:13)
2. To whom…
3. For whom - to be acted upon…
4. For what things (and more)... (see also Ephesians 1:15-19)

…does Paul pray?

APPLY: What do you usually pray for? How do your own prayers compare with Paul's prayer? In what ways should we imitate Paul with such spiritual depth as he does?

DISCUSS: Is it possible Paul is praying as he writes this letter to the Ephesians? What indicates this? Is it OK to multitask and pray as you write? When might you do this?

Share

Share how your prayers have changed since the time you first believed. In what ways have you struggled with prayer, and how have you overcome such struggles? How can we be hopeful in prayer? (Romans 8:26-27; Galatians 5:16)

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Pray we allow the Spirit to intercede, when we don't know what to pray for.
- Pray God reveals himself to us more fully, to help us trust him for everything, to pray like Paul or like a small child to a loving parent.