

Ephesians: Strength and Power

Ephesians 3:14-21



**We can't do life on our own, so we need
God's Spirit.**

- **Preparing to Pray**
- **One Request, Four Results**
- **The Goal**

Preparing to Pray

- Paul prays desperately because unless God answers the prayer, the church can't be who they're supposed to be
- His big request: That God would send the Holy Spirit to equip and empower the church to be who they're supposed to be

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Result 1: Strengthened with Power

- Paul is praying for them to have inner strength
- But he's saying to get it, we need help from outside ourselves, because on our own we lack the resources to cope with life
- Apart from Christ, our only real choices when facing crisis are to live in denial or let fear consume us
- But knowing and believing God's truth gives us inner strength

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Rooted and Grounded in Love

- Love is at the center of the church's identity
- Love grows in us organically as Jesus lives inside us

Knowing Unknowable Love

- We can study and research God's love, but we can't know it until God reveals it to us
- Right now, we can know His love truly, but we can't know it fully
- God has designed it so we know His love more deeply when we know the love of His people

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Filled with God's Fullness

- Our lives tend to be filled with things other than God
- The problem isn't that these things are bad, it's that we compartmentalize them
- When we're filled with God, He becomes the thing that unites everything else in our lives and is present through it all

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The Goal

- The God would be glorified
- Paul's goal is to build us up by showing us God's all-sufficiency
- Our areas of weakness and failure are places we can learn to depend on Jesus