

“A Church That Prays For Power”

Eph. 3:14-21

A
PRAYING
CHURCH



LINK TO
WATCH SERMON



LINK TO LISTEN
TO SERMON



A PRAYING CHURCH

Warm-Up Question:

Define a “craving.” What are some of your deepest heart cravings for in life?

READ: Ephesians 3:14-21

I. A CRAVING FOR INTIMACY WITH THE FATHER

- ▶ Read Eph. 1:3-14 by yourself, as if God is saying this to you personally, and then each describe one truth that most reaches your heart.
- ▶ In Rev. 2:4, Jesus says that church “abandoned/left your first love.” What might he have meant? Can you relate, or have you ever experienced a time like this?
- ▶ Describe a time or season of life where you really felt intimacy with God the Father.

II. A CRAVING TO KNOW AND EXPERIENCE MORE OF THE GOSPEL

- ▶ Read Eph. 1:18-19. Why does Paul want our eyes to be opened to see? Why do our eyes need to be opened to see those things if we’re already Christians?
- ▶ What do you do on a daily/weekly basis to help you know and experience the gospel more and more? Or what would you like to start doing more?
- ▶ Who is the “glorious inheritance” of whom in 1:18? Can you imagine that Jesus might have more craving to return for and be with us than we have for him? Discuss that gospel truth and how it impacts you to.

III. A CRAVING FOR POWER TO BE SHAPED BY THE LOVE OF JESUS

- ▶ From Eph. 1:19-20, what kind of power is at work in us?
- ▶ From Eph. 3:14-19, what do we need such power for? What is such power meant to accomplish in you?
- ▶ How do you need such power for this specifically? Name some of the barriers that keep you from trusting and experiencing the love of Jesus for you.

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

REMINDER

Try to leave more time to linger in prayer during this series.

DISCUSS

- ▶ What is most difficult about praying out loud in your small group?
- ▶ What is the value of praying together in a group vs. praying alone?

FOR PRAYER TIME

- ▶ Pray your eyes would be more open to experience the beauty and love of Jesus
- ▶ Pray for more power in areas where you feel weak or discouraged
- ▶ Pray for the spiritual growth for others and your group



SEVEN RIVERS
C H U R C H

A Church That Prays For Power Ephesians 3:14-21

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Scripture Passages Used:

Eph. 3:14 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.

Eph. 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Eph. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, **4** even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **5** he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, **6** to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. **7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, **8** which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight **9** making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ **10** as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Eph. 1:11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **12** so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Rev. 2:4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.