

Claim God's Power

“For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom His whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, ²¹to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”
- Ephesians 3:14-21

In This Series...

1. We've encouraged God's children to think differently about who they are in Christ.
2. We've come to understand many of our benefits in Christ.
3. We've celebrated all that's ours through Christ.

The Prayer...

1. “For this reason...”
 - a) Promise = God is dependable
 - b) Partnership = God leads us
 - c) Pardon = God has done great things for YOU
 - d) Peace = God had done GREAT things for US
 - e) Perception = God grants wisdom when needed

2. “Out of His glorious riches”

“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and His incomparably great power for us who believe.”.....
- Ephesians 1:18,19

“And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.”.....
- Ephesians 2:6,7

The Progression...

1. Dwelling with Christ — *He is Love.*
 - a) Beyond just a casual acquaintance.
 - b) An intimate knowledge and affection.
2. Rooted and established — *We stand on His love.*
 - a) Agricultural term pointing toward longevity.
 - b) Structural term pointing toward stability. (foundation)
3. Grasp the size of His love — *We experience His love.*
 - a) Gain knowledge. - of what God's love is all about
 - b) Four dimensions of love.
4. Know the intimacy of His love — *We become His love.*

The Plenty...

“And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.”
- Ephesians 1:22,23

- Filled beyond full.

The Power...

“For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.” - 2 Corinthians 5:14,15

The Praise...

1. Paul ends his writing of this section the same way he started it — to the praise of His glorious grace...
 - a) In the church and in the world at large.
 - b) For everything in the present and in the future.
2. An additional emphasis on God at work through us — not our ability to do it on our own.

What Do We Learn?

1. God loves people and wants to share the power of that love.
2. The glory of God is the central focus of everything given to us.
3. God longs for us to reclaim these gifts in order that His power can work through us to advance His plan.

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