## **Claim God's Power**

"For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom His whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup> may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup> and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now 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, <sup>21</sup> to 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"

"And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>in 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, <sup>23</sup>which 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. <sup>15</sup>And 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.

#### **Claim It! What We Have In Christ**

Week 6

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