

## STUDY GUIDE 6

### EPHESIANS 3:14-21



### Paul's Second Prayer in Ephesians

As you start this study, ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand what God has said through Paul.

#### DAY 1

Read the paragraph 3 times.

1. Note in verse 14 "For this reason" – this resumes the thought from verse 1 in chapter 3. Go back and read verse 1.
2. In Paul's day people usually stood to pray. Note in verse 14 how Paul prays – "I kneel before the Father" or "I bow my knees". See Ezra 9:3-5 and Matthew 26:39. What does Paul's position praying indicate about how Paul feels or Paul's attitude during this prayer?
3. According to verse 15, from whom do all God's family on earth and in heaven get their name? What does it mean to be called by someone's name? What does it mean to be called by God's name?

#### DAY 2

1. In verse 16 – what does Paul request that God the Father do for the readers? Through whom will he do this? Out of what resources? In what part of the person?
2. The phrase "inner being" or "inner man" is also used by Paul in Romans 7:22. Read Romans 7:22-23. Write what you understand "inner being" or "inner man" to mean.
3. In verse 17 "so that" indicates a reason or end result for the request in verse 16. What is it?

**TO DIG DEEPER:** Think about the word "dwell". What does it mean? See John 14:23; Romans 8:9&11; 2Corinthians 13:5; Ephesians 2:22; 1 Corinthians 3:16. Who is the one dwelling? Where is he dwelling? Through what is he dwelling? Look up the word "dwell" in a Bible dictionary or regular dictionary. Now, putting this together, write out what "dwell" means.

### DAY 3

1. From verses 17 and 18 “and” what else does Paul ask for the Ephesian readers?
2. Here is the word “power” again. What 2 things does Paul want them to have this power for? (see verses 18 & 19 to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_.)

If you have trouble with these 2 questions – use the “simplify the sentence technique”. Get the subject, main verbs and the object.

### DAY 4

1. In verse 17 the condition for this further request of Paul is that his readers are “rooted” and “established” or “grounded” in love. These are metaphors used to describe a Christian. See 1 Corinthians 3:6 and Colossians 2:6 & 7. Read also Psalm 1. What is the picture here?
2. In verse 18 whose love are we to grasp? In verse 19 what else are we to do with his love? Why?
3. We are to grasp or understand and know the love of Christ. Wow! Read Romans 8:35-39. Reflect on these two passages. Write down your thoughts.

TO DIG DEEPER: To help you further understand verse 18 “how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ”, look at Job 11:7-9. Read again Romans 8:35-39. Also read Psalm 103:11-12. Now write out what you think is being described about Christ’s love with each of these 4 words.

## DAY 5

1. In verse 19 the end result is that we “may be filled with all the fullness of God”. See Study Guide 2 and Day 5 question 3. Read Ephesians 1:23, 4:13 and Colossians 1:19, 2:9-10 and John 1:16. Now describe “the fullness of God”.
2. Verses 20 and 21 are a Doxology – a prayer of praise to God. Again, break down the passage to the subject, main verb and object for the basic idea of this prayer. Write it out.
3. According to verses 20 and 21, what is God able to do? What are we unable to do? According to what does God do this? In whom?

## DAY 6

### APPLICATION:

One principle to seal a Bible passage in your mind is to think of a hymn or Christian Chorus that expresses or encompasses the idea of the passage. Can you think of one that expresses the thoughts in verse 18? Write it down. Sing it.

### APPLICATION 2:

The Doxology in Ephesians 3: 20 and 21 show us that the true goal of prayer is the glory of God. Think about your own prayers. Ask yourself, do I realize the answers to the requests I bring to God are to bring glory to Him? What can I do to help me focus more on God’s glory?