

Pray like Paul... for the Love of Christ!

Ephesians 3.14-21

Focus: calling the church to pray to the Father that, by the Spirit, they might know the love of Christ and experience the fullness of God

Discussion:

- Read Paul's prayer in 3.14-21.: white board/list a list of everything you can learn about prayer from this passage. Also, what can you learn about the character of God from this passage?
- How does the Trinity show up in Paul's prayer? What role does each member play?
- As part of the above question, discuss the significance of addressing God as Father when we pray (this is not the exclusive address we can use for God, but does have some powerful advantages). Cf. Matt. 6.9; 7.9-11.
- Do you think posture matters in prayer? What advantages could come to us from the posture of kneeling in prayer? (cf. Ps. 95.6-7; Mk. 1:40; Acts 21:5)
- Do you think that the expression, "Jesus loves you!" has been emptied of it's meaning in our day? What might contribute to that? Why do you think grasping this truth matters so much to us as Christians? What can make that hard to grasp meaningfully?
- How does the doxology in 3.20-21 apply to the rest of Paul's prayer?
- How can you build this prayer to know the love of Christ into your daily prayers for you and others?

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