

How to Pray with Power Notes

Ephesians 3:14-21

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Main Point: God gives us more strength than we can even ask for when we fully surrender to Christ.

Observations

1. This prayer is trinitarian (all members of the _____ are mentioned).
2. This prayer is focused on our _____ person, not on our bodies.
 - All of Paul's prayers recorded while in prison dealt with the believer's _____ condition, not the physical.
3. Paul prayed with _____.
4. This prayer is focused on the _____ for power.

The Posture of Prayer (vs. 14-15)

1. To bow means, "to bend in homage, to stoop in reverence and _____."
2. To kneel represents _____ and adoration before God.
3. In that culture, "father" was a term of intimacy and _____.
4. It was the name used most often by Jesus when He prayed.
5. God names every family, which shows His heart for the _____, and the family unit as the primary discipleship engine.
6. Some of God's forever family is already "in heaven" while others of us are still on "earth."
7. To be "named" in biblical usage refers to our _____ and reflects the authority of the one who does the naming.

The Petitions of Prayer (vs. 16-19)

1. Paul prays that our inner being may have spiritual strength, which comes from surrender, which will provide stability and a settled faith.
2. Paul makes these requests not according to our ability to receive them, but according to God's _____ to give them.
3. Paul does not want us to experience a puny portion of God, but to draw from God's _____ supply.
4. "Glory" literally means "_____ in weight, important, significant, having a great reputation and splendor, brightness and beauty, worthiness and honor."
5. Petitions
 - _____ (vs. 16)
 - To grant means "to give _____."
 - The word "strengthened" has the idea of "growing strong and being established."
 - The word "power" is where we get dynamo, dynamite, and dynamic.
 - _____ (vs. 17)
 - Dwell means "to _____ down and feel at home," in contrast to feeling like a visitor.
 - It has the idea of being _____ in a home.
 - _____ (vs. 17)
 - Just as a tree must grow roots deep into the soil to find nourishment and stability, so believers must go _____.
 - The verb "rooted" is from the world of botany while "grounded" refers to the _____ of a building.

- _____ is the defining characteristic of a disciple of Christ (John 13:35).
- _____ (vs. 18-19)
 - One translation uses the word “grasp” for “comprehend” which literally means to “be made strong to apprehend or _____” the enormity of Christ’s love.
 - In the New Testament, the word “saint” is a synonym for a _____.
 - We can comprehend better when we’re in community “with all the saints.”
 - In an effort to convey the limitlessness of God’s love, Paul attempted to measure it by describing its four-dimensional vastness.
 - _____ – God’s love is so wide it reaches to all people, nations, needs, cares, and situations.
 - _____ – God unconditional love existed before time and extends into eternity. God’s love is long enough to last forever (Jeremiah 31:3).
 - _____ – This word was used of the highest heaven and means, “elevated.” The love of God is high enough to take those who are saved to Heaven.
 - _____ – God’s love is deep enough to reach and rescue the worst sinner.
 - Paul prayed for believers to know the love of Christ not just intellectually but also _____.
- _____ (vs 19)
 - As believers we have been created to be the _____ of God.
 - He desires to pour His life into ours and _____ us until we’re full.
 - “Filled” means “to be filled to the _____, to be filled to overflowing, like a cup that is running over.”
 - It means total _____, to come to the place in your life where you are totally overwhelmed by God’s presence.
 - It means giving everything to God and leaving _____ of yourself.
 - This suggests a progressive experience where we ask God to constantly fill and flood us with all His fullness.
 - How do we remove the weakness, the sin, and the junk from our lives? By being _____ with the fullness of God.

The Power of Prayer (vs. 20-21).

1. God’s _____ – God is “able” which means He has the power to do anything He purposes to do.
2. God’s _____
 - The phrase “far more” means “to _____, to go over, above, and beyond.”
 - Abundantly means “to exceedingly _____.”
3. God’s _____ (vs. 21)
 - As we utilize the power given to us in the church, God receives the _____ in the church.

Action Steps

1. If you don’t have physical limitations, try praying on your knees for one week.
2. Pray this prayer for yourself on a regular basis.
3. Pray this prayer for other people.
4. Think of an impossible situation right now and choose to trust our really big God.