

April 2, 2016

## Ephesians 3:14-21

As limited and finite beings, we are helpless and in desperate need of God's love. Like oxygen provides life to the blood, so also experiencing the love of God provides vitality to the soul. While we may know this to be true cognitively, practically we are easily deceived and try to find our fulfillment with worldly opportunity. Unfortunately, this pathway leads us into redefining biblical love that is more about our performance than Christ's finished work on the cross.

Paul's prayer is an encouragement to us and our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ - that our top priority is to strengthen our soul and experience the love of God. We must remind ourselves that our unlimited capacity to need is superseded by God's unlimited capacity to provide. As we let Him take care of our internal needs, our external concerns will also be taken care of. Why?

*Because God is able to do all we ask him to do.*

*He is even able to do all that we dare not ask but merely imagine.*

*He can do more than this.*

*Far more.*

*Infinitely far more.*

### Questions

1. When has been a time in your life where your spiritual weakness surfaced? (i.e., you experienced a difficult or challenging circumstance, you were under pressure, or easily tempted by sin, etc.) Did it draw you closer to God or did you distance yourself from Him?
2. What does your prayer life look like?
3. No one likes to be described as needy. What prevents you from seeing and/or admitting your need?
4. When you pray, are you praying for inner strength or for your circumstances to change? Please elaborate on your answer.
5. Read Psalm 34:8. How have you tasted God's love in community?
6. When Christ takes residence in our soul, He transforms and continues to change us from the inside out. How has Christ been changing you this past year, this past month, and/or this past week?
7. What are ways that you intentionally put yourself in a place to experience God's love?