



## SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“EPHESIANS 3:14-21” ON SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2022

### CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

### DISCOVER: EPHESIANS 3:1-13

- What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?
- How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
- Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

EPHESIANS 3:14-21 This Prison Epistle from Paul to the followers of Jesus in Ephesus continues as an encouragement, reminding them of what is important for the growth of their ministry, their faith, and their church: We must rely on the strength ONLY God can give, and we must recognize that Jesus is ENOUGH – He's ALL we need!

Overview/A Glance Back: Review Ephesians 1:15, 2:11, 2:19, 3:1 and 3:14

- What do these 'For this reason' 'Consequently' and 'Therefore' comments refer to? Give a summary of what Paul has been impressing upon the Ephesian church in these first three chapters – what does he want them to understand about Jesus and about the church? (You may also consider the 'And,' 'But,' and 'For' and 'So that' words!) What general themes and concepts does Paul emphasize?
- Which of Paul's verses or themes in these three chapters are most significant to you in your spiritual walk at this time in your life? How do they encourage you or challenge you?

Paul spoke of bowing his knees before the Father, and he spoke of being granted strength and power – what kind is needed, how much is enough, and where can we find it?

- What does Paul's prayer posture indicate about his reverence for God and the nature of his prayer for the Ephesians? How important is this prayer posture in your prayer life – what does it mean to you?
- What does it mean for Christ to 'dwell' in your heart, and why is that dwelling significant to being strengthened with power? Do you tend to rely more on your own strength or the strength of Christ dwelling in you?
- How would you describe the concept of being 'rooted and grounded' in love as Christ dwells in our hearts through faith? What does 'digging deep to build high' mean to you spiritually?
- To what is Paul referring when he uses the words 'breadth, length, height, and depth' in reference to the love of Christ? What do those terms mean to you in your concept of God's love, and how does that drive you?

Paul wants the Ephesians (and us) to do more than KNOW ABOUT the love of Christ – he wants us to EXPERIENCE it intimately – to recognize that the love of Jesus is enough! Because Paul experienced the sacrificial love of Jesus, he began to understand it, and it began to spill out of him!

- How about you? Can you describe a time or times you or someone around you was so filled with the fullness of God that it just 'spilled out'?
- Do you know someone who LIVES a 'spilling-out' life? What will you do with that as you step forward in living CU's mission to Love God and Love People?

Check-Up:

- ARE you relying on the strength ONLY God can give?
- IS Jesus ENOUGH for you?
- Will you PRAISE Him, giving Him the glory He deserves?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

## SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

### RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

### PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.