



Ephesians 3:14-19
The Joy of of Life Change
Dr. Jimmy Stewart
April 2, 2023

Sermon Summary

The Mystery has been revealed to Paul. The Mystery has been proclaimed by Paul. The Mystery is now certified in the lives of the Gentile believers in Ephesus and beyond by the powerful working of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Jesus' resurrected life has reordered the world, establishing a new covenant. He does the same for each life. Changing. Making New.

What evidence can you offer that Jesus has saved you (changed you)? What fruit certifies that you are a believer filled with the Holy Spirit? Christ has been revealed. Salvation has been proclaimed to everyone. Have you received Christ and his salvation? If you have, there will be certification of your salvation evidenced in your life by the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit as you receive power and grow in your faith.

Scripture Overview: Paul begins to pray for the empowerment of every believer through God's Spirit. What a glorious prayer. His words in prayer could become our words in prayer . . . "Lord, I ask that from your glorious unlimited resources you empower me with inner strength through your Holy Spirit. Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart as I trust in you. Help the roots of my spiritual life grow down into your love and keep me strong. Give me the power to understand how wide, how long, how high and how deep your love is. May I experience the love of Christ though it is too great to understand fully. Please make me complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes only from you, Lord Jesus!"

Ephesians 3:14-19

14 When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, 15 the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. 16 I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. 17 Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. 18 And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. 19 May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. New Living Translation (NLT)

Diving Into The Message

The Joy of Life Change

I. Life is Conceived By God

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, **Ephesians 3:14-16 (ESV)**

Who He Is - His Name

What He Has - His Glory

What He Can do - His Spirit

Everything Comes From God the Father

II. Life is Confirmed In Jesus

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

Ephesians 3:17 (ESV)

III. Life is Completed With the Spirit

17 (continued) that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. **Ephesians 3:17-19 (ESV)**

LIFE APPLICATION SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

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Questions from the Scripture

1. List all the requests in the prayer of verses 14-19.
2. Paul begins this passage, “For this reason.” What was the reason for Paul’s prayer?
3. How is God characterized in verses 14-15?
4. How does our understanding of God impact how we approach Him in prayer?
5. As you think about all that has been explained in the book of Ephesians so far, why is love such an important element of Paul’s prayer?
6. How have you seen these prayer requests answered in your church? In your life?
7. How is this prayer evidence of the freedom and confidence we have in approaching God?

Life Application Questions

1. What evidence/certification can you offer to others of your faith in Jesus? What fruit of God’s Holy Spirit working in your life is being produced? [Galatians 5:22-26]
2. In what ways might you grow in and improve the way you pray for your church? Your pastors? Your teachers? Other believers?
3. Praise God for His church, the body of Christ. Ask Him to help you to grow in your appreciation of the church. Kneel quietly and in worship before the Father, from whom His whole family in heaven and earth derives its name. Pray Paul’s prayer for your church (see #5). Pray this prayer for yourself (see #4)!
- 4.

5. SELF: “Lord, I ask that from your glorious unlimited resources you empower me with inner strength through your Holy Spirit. Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart as I trust in you. Help the roots of my spiritual life grow down into your love and keep me strong. Give me the power to understand how wide, how long, how high and how deep your love is. May I experience the love of Christ though it is too great to understand fully. Please make me complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes only from you! Now all glory to you God, who is able, through your mighty power at work within me, to accomplish infinitely more than I might ask or think. Glory to you in my life and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.”

6. CHURCH: “Lord, I ask that from your glorious unlimited resources you empower our church with strength through your Holy Spirit. Lord Jesus, make your home in our church as we trust in you. Help the roots of our spiritual lives grow down into your love and keep us strong. Give us the power to understand how wide, how long, how high and how deep your love is. May we experience the love of Christ though it is too great to understand fully. Please make our church complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes only from you! Now all glory to you God, who is able, through your mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to you in our church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.