

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Power of Prayer"

By Jerry Cummings, Pastor of Living Hope Fellowship in Norton

Ephesians 3:14-19 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height- 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

These verses from Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus contain a prayer that he prayed for these believers. Since it is in the scriptures, we also know that it is a prayer the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write. If the Holy Spirit moved Paul to pray this, then it must be important for us as well today.

I just want to point out a couple of thoughts from

this prayer. One thing we see here is that a true grasp of God's love for us does not come naturally to our human minds. We do not truly "get it" just by being told that God loves us. The love of Christ passes knowledge (v.19) In fact verse 16 shows us that we

must be strengthened on the inside by the Holy Spirit just to begin to grasp the size and extent of Christ's love.

The other thing we see here is that this revelation to our inner man of Christ's love, is the key to how much of God's life we can have

moving in and through us. In vs. 17 he says "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith." And in vs. 19 he says, "that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." I can't even imagine what being "filled with all the fullness of God" looks like, but we do see here that it is directly connected to a God given knowledge of the love of Christ.

Even though I can hardly imagine what it would look like for the church to be "filled with all the fullness of God", what love, what joy, what purity, what power, what fruitfulness, I still conclude that it must be a possibility, if this prayer is given in God's word. So today as well, let us pray this same prayer for each other individually and as the people of God. "Father, would you strengthen your children through the Holy Spirit so that being rooted and grounded in love, they may begin to grasp the great depth, height, and breadth of Jesus's love."



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Sharing God

Best friends share their innermost secrets and feelings, their wishes and dreams for the future. They can also share their

thoughts about God. The world leaves no room for doubt that our youth need a firm foundation in order to face inevitable moral issues. Let God make a lasting imprint on their souls...share Him with a best friend this week at your house of worship.

Weekly Scripture Reading

2 Peter 3.1-18	Isaiah 25.1-12	Isaiah 26.1-21	Isaiah 40.1-31	Isaiah 41.1-20	Isaiah 42.1-25	Isaiah 43.1-21
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society

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SculptureTour Salina Premier Party!
May 21, Salina
Unveiling of SculptureTour Salina. The three-block walking tour will feature creations of artists from across the U.S. 785-825-0535, sculpturetoursalina.com

Katy Days
May 27-29, Parsons
Celebrating the railroad heritage of SE Kansas. Historical and educational presentations, activities and entertainment for all ages. katydays.com

Riverfest
June 3-11, Wichita
Nine days of food, fun and entertainment! Over 60 events including a parade, concerts, river events, kids' activities, fireworks and more! (316) 267-2817, wichitariverfest.com

Black Jack Battlefield Commemorative Event
June 4, Wellsville
See the first battle of the Civil War come to life on the original battlefield. Live music, performances, crafts, food & much more! (785) 883-2106, blackjackbattlefield.org

Smoky Hill River Festival
June 9-12, Salina
A true festival of the arts! Live music on four stages. Fine arts show, craft market, arts/crafts demos, children's area & more! (785) 309-5770, riverfestival.com

Lake Garnett Cruisers Auto & Motorcycle Show
June 11, Garnett
Celebrating 150 years of Kansas automotive racing history. Over 30 special awards, prizes, crafts, food & fun on "the square." (785) 448-3789, lakegarnettcruisers.com

Dodge House Shootout
June 11-12, Dodge City
Fast Draw Competition. Western reenactments & cowboy stunts at Dodge City Roundup Arena. (620) 225-9900

2011 Preferred Health Systems Wichita Open
July 13-19, Wichita
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