



PRAYER TO EXPERIENCE TRUTH DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

EPHESIANS 3:14-21

1 **How did you learn to pray?** What have been the dominant influences in your life?

 *After reading through the text together, how does how you learned to pray reflect the Paul's prayer in Eph 3:14-21?*


2 **Paul bows His knees before the Father.** What does the posture of bowing the knees communicate to you? See the following passages: 1 Chr. 29:20, Ps 95:6, Is 45:23, Phil 2:10.

 *What are some of the things that keep you from bowing in desperation when you pray?*


 *When faced with a great need, what do you most often do instead of praying?*

3 **What does it mean to you to address your prayers to God as a Father?** Discuss the following texts as a group: Isa 40:26, Matt 6:9, Rom. 8:15, Gal. 4:6, Eph 1:17

4 **Our culture places so much importance on the outer person.** In what ways do you see that emphasis in those you interact with daily?

 *The Bible tells us that the inner man is far more important. In what ways is that true? Read the following passages. 2 Cor. 4:16, 1 Sam. 16:7, Pr 31:30, Rom. 7:22, 12:2.*


5 **Paul prays that we would be able to comprehend the love of Christ "with all the saints" (Eph 3:18).** In what ways have you been able to better grasp God's love in community with other believers?

 *How have specific group members helped you better grasp God's love for you? Praise God together for how He has used members of your group to help you better grasp His love.*


6 **How can a fuller understanding of God's love make a practical difference in your life?** Think of how you interact with others, how you view yourself, how you manage your finances, etc?

 *In what areas of your life are you living from a position of emptiness rather than fullness in God's love?*

 *How can meditation on the love of Christ better equip you to face those things?*


 *Think of a time when you struggled as a Christian, or repeatedly gave into a particular sin. How was that connected to a failure to grasp Christ's love for you? [1]*

7 **Take time to prayerfully meditate on the vastness love of Christ.** Which aspect of Christ's love particulalry thrills you today? [2]


 *Consider the breadth of God's acceptinglove. How wide is it?*

 *Consider the length of God's lasting love. How long does it last?*

 *Consider the height of God's exalting love. How high does it reach?*

 *Consider the depth of God's sacrificial love. How deep can it go?*

8 **Why do verses 20-21 encourage you to pray with great expectations?** [3]

 *Why should we pray for God to do amazing things according to verse 21?*

 *Pray the requests of Eph 3:16-21, personalizing them, putting yourself, your fellow group members and your church in the prayer by name. [4]*

9 **Paul closes his prayer with a stirring doxology aligning His prayer to the all encompassing purpose glory of God.** What steps can you take to make the glory of God the central concern of your life? [5]

PRAYER REQUESTS

[1] Coekin, Ephesians For You, 109. [2] Ibid., 109. [3] Tony Merida, Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Ephesians (Nashville: Holman, 2014), 80. [4] Wright, NT. Ephesians: Bible Studies for Everyone, 36. [5] Carson, Praying with Paul. 181