

The _____ of the Prayer



Hope for Everyone Internalized

Ephesians 3:9-21

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Christmas is the Good News about hope for everyone, found only in Christ. But before we can tell everyone or anyone about hope in Christ, we must know, feel, and experience that hope ourselves, ON THE INSIDE. That's what Paul prays for in Ephesians 3:14-21. May this be our prayer for Grace Central Coast as we embark on another year together . . .

The _____ for the Prayer

1. A prayer to be _____ by the _____

- Strength according to the _____ of the Father's glory.
Strength through the Spirit's power on the _____.
Strength so that Christ may _____ in our hearts through _____.

2. A prayer to _____

- The love of Christ _____ us and _____ us.
The love of Christ as _____ as the _____.
The love of Christ as _____ as _____.
The love of Christ as _____ as _____.
The love of Christ as _____ as the _____.

3. A prayer to be _____ with _____

- When we the church are filled with His fullness, we are _____ to Christ, our head. (1:22)
When we the church are filled with God's fullness, we are _____ in unity and maturity. (4:13)
When we the church are filled with God's fulness we are _____ by God's Spirit. (5:17)

- Paul prays because he's _____ by the Gospel's "Hope for Everyone" and God's purpose in, through, and for the _____.
Paul prays because _____ is not enough and only God can enable us to _____ the blessings of Christ in the Gospel.
Paul prays because the _____ of Christ is the _____ of God in our lives together as the church.

The _____ of the Prayer

- a _____ prayer
a _____ prayer



NEXT WEEK
Our Blessings in Christ
Ephesians 1-3



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Ephesians 3:9-21

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Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

Connecting Together

Take some time to share with one another some of your own treasured traditions of Christmas.

Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

1. How did you come under God's Word in the message this week?
How did God speak to you this week? What truth did you need to hear again or for the first time in this message?
2. Read Ephesians 3:1-21 together. What is the relationship between 3:1 and 3:14 and what is happening in between?
3. How is Paul's prayer humble? How is it bold?

4. We most often pray for our circumstances to change. By contrast Paul most often prays for us to change. How do you explain this difference and what do you think it means?

5. **Your Growth Group as a Family:** What difference does the internalization and experience of love in a family make in our lives? What happens if we don't know that love? What difference might really knowing, experiencing and internalizing the love of Christ make in our family interactions as a Growth Group?

6. **Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary:** Before we can share Gospel "hope for everyone" with someone else, we must know it deep down inside ourselves. How well do you think you really know it?

Praying Together

- Follow Paul's example by praying this Ephesians 3:14-21 prayer for Grace Central Coast and for others in your growth group.