



Gospel Community Study Questions

Ephesians 3:14-21 | Prayer

Key Passage: Ephesians 3:14–21

Supporting Passages: Acts 2:42; Jeremiah 32:27; Jude 24

Big Idea: A fruitful church is marked by prayer that depends on God's power for God's glory.

Read and Recap

We give time to the gift of prayer because we want to be fruitful. As we've spent the last week in prayer as a church we know prayer is the fuel which drives the mission of the church.

Read Ephesians 3:14–21.

Take a few minutes to recap the passage together. What is Paul praying for? What does this prayer reveal about what Paul believes to be true about God and about the church?

Discuss

In Ephesians 3:14-16, Paul prays for God's people to be strengthened with power. Why is prayer such a defining mark of a fruitful Christian and a fruitful church? The early church devoted themselves to prayer (Acts 2:42). What does that kind of devotion communicate about their dependence on God? How does this passage challenge or encourage your own prayer life?

Paul reminds us God "is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think" (vv. 20–21). How does this shape how we approach God in prayer? Read **Jeremiah 32:27**. How does believing that nothing is too hard for God affect what we pray for? How does this effect praying for salvation of others? The sermon contrasted prayer with ideas like "manifesting." How is Christian prayer different, and why does that distinction matter?

God's power is not abstract but active in real lives. Where have you seen God's power at work in salvation, freedom from sin, or sustaining grace? Read **Jude 24-25**. How does God's ability to keep and restore His people give us confidence to pray boldly?

Paul prays **for the church and with the church**. How can we grow as a Gospel Community that prays together regularly? In what ways can our prayers reflect a desire for God to be glorified in the church "for all generations"?

Close & Pray Give generous time to pray together. Pray for spiritual strength, deeper dependence on God, freedom from sin and addiction, and abundant grace. Pray that God would be glorified in our church and through Jesus Christ for all time. Close together by affirming these prayers with "Amen" — *so be it; we agree*.

Coming Up: Next week we will begin a study of 1 John with 1 John 1:1-4.