

Connect Group Discussion Guide

PARTICIPANT
EPHESIANS - PT 5
10/11/2026

SERMON SUMMARY

For a second time, Paul is moved to deep reverence and praise as he writes this letter to the Ephesian believers while imprisoned.

This results in another ultimate prayer that reflects God's fatherhood, triune nature, sovereignty, and glory.

The prayer contains three primary sections, asking for: strength, love, and fullness.

He ends with doxology (a short hymn, prayer, or expression of praise to God) and astonishment.

READ THE PASSAGE

Ephesians 3:14-21

Read the passage in the ESV once through to get an idea for how it flows. Then have someone else read it slowly, pausing after each verse to be curious about it.

Ask questions of each verse, whatever arises in that moment of looking at it with fresh eyes. See if the group can search for answers to a few of those questions.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Remember that your Group Leader and Connect group is here to support you every step of the way.
- Before you read scripture, pray a short prayer asking God's Spirit to help you understand what He wants you to receive from His Word. It is His breath that brings life and opens our minds and hearts to spiritual truth.
- Ask, "Holy Spirit, help me/us understand Your word."

ENGAGE WITH THE PASSAGE

1. How is Paul's prayer full of reverence for God?
2. What does it mean for Christ to dwell in our hearts through faith? How does that shape the way we live?
3. Look at John 1:14-18. How do these verses explain the "fullness" of Christ more?
4. Why do we need strength, of all things, to comprehend the love of Christ "that surpasses knowledge"?
5. What thing that Paul asked for do you need more of in this season? Strength from His Spirit, intimate knowledge of Christ's love, or being filled with God's fullness to a new degree?

NEXT STEPS

As you consider your next step, reflect on:

- 1) How can I pray out of reverence for God? What needs to change about how I pray?
- 2) How can I cultivate a sense of awe for God? Where can I go to spend time alone with Him?

Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 2 or 3 for this question, so each person has others praying with them for the needs they're taking before the throne.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Ephesians 4:1 "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called."

PRACTICE

Last week, we prayed for someone we might consider a "them." How did that exercise in "loving your enemies" go?

This week, let's practice being "rooted and grounded in love." Here is a [link](#) to the "one another" verses in the New Testament. These commands teach active ways to love others better. Ask the Lord to show you which one you need to work on this week. Read about it in the context of its chapter and look for ways to live it out with those you encounter. (Yes, even enemies!)