**Discussion Guide: Knowing The Love & Power Of God**

3 Ephesians 14-21

Central Idea: We pray to the God who wants to hear us, who loves us and wants us to experience his love and power on a grand scale, with one another.

**Prayer**. Almost everyone does it. By survey, more than 80% of Canadians say that they prayer regularly. However, many would say that their prayers are seldom clearly answered.

Much of OUR praying, too, is fuzzy, difficult to measure, and hard to maintain, to persist in.

Paul in Ephesians gives us a remarkable array of content for our prayers by the content and direction of his praying for the Christians in Ephesus. He writes out three prayers: 1:15-23; 3:14-21; 6:18-20. The apostle gives us the opportunity to enjoy great depth to our praying.

1. Which of these elements of Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 1 resonates with your prayer life? Positively? Negatively?
	1. Give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation
	2. Minds’ perception may be enlightened
	3. Know the hope of his calling
	4. Know the glorious riches of his inheritance
	5. Know the immeasurable power given to us
2. How does Paul’s prayer help you in praying for anyone else?
	1. Can you imagine praying these things for another person? If so, would you?
	2. If not, why not?
3. Which of these elements of Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 6 resonates with your prayer life?
	1. Pray in the Spirit—the realm, the sphere of the Spirit—prompted, moved, guided; what do YOU think it means to ‘pray in the Spirit?’
	2. Stay alert in your prayers for all the saints. How many ‘saints’ could you pray for? How large a circle have your drawn?
	3. That the message may be given when I open my mouth to make known the mystery of the gospel. This takes great trust in the Spirit! Has you voiced a prayer like this? Can you tell us the circumstance? how that worked out?
	4. That I might be bold enough to speak as I should. Boldness implies that Paul, too, experienced fearfulness at the thought of discussing the Gospel. How does that fearfulness show up for you? How have you overcome that fear? Have you?
4. Which of these elements in Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 3 resonates with your prayer life?
	1. Pray for strength; strength provided by the Spirit, in the ‘inner person?’ Is that a common request of yours? What sort of things do you request help for?
	2. Pray for strength to comprehend God’s love. How would explain this request? Why should we need strength to do this? ‘With all the saints’—why do we need deep connections with all the saints we know in order to comprehend God’s love, to experience God’s love?
	3. Pray to be filled with all the fullness of God. What does that sound like to you? Is that something you desire or something you fear?
5. Which of these suggestions are helpful for you?
* Learn to pray by praying Scripture.
* Learn to pray by praying with other believers.
* Deepen prayer by praying consistently with others.

**Next passage, next Sunday: Ephesians 4:1-6**

***Live in Unity, following a careful exposition of the Love and Power of God within us.***

What questions come to you when you read the next sermon text?

Please give those questions to your Growth Group Leader to pass on to Lane, next week’s teacher.

If you think of something later, send them to your GGL or directly to Lane… ontariocajun@gmail.com