Worship Guide for March 6, 2022

Sermon Notes

Our God is Able

Ephesians 3:20-21

As Paul comes to the middle of his letter to the Ephesians, he prays for the church to fully know and grasp the truths of the gospel he has written about in the preceding verses. He prays to the Father on behalf of the saints, that God would empower them in their inner man according to the rich resources of his glory, through His Spirit Christ would settle down in their hearts by faith so that they would be rooted and established in love and they would together receive the power together to grasp the infinite dimensions of Christ's love for them... that they would know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge and that they would be filled to the full measure with the fullness of God.

As is often his pattern, Paul breaks out in praise & worship as he considers these truths of the gospel and their implications in our lives. Paul has shown us *what* we should be praying for. Now in this extraordinary doxology he shows us *how* and *why* we should be praying this way. We should be praying with our minds and hearts fixed on the power of God and His love for us. Praying this way stretches our faith and raises our expectations of what God can and wants to do on behalf of his people. We cannot go too far in our estimation and expectation of what He can do. And Paul shows us why we should be praying this way: for the glory and praise of God today and throughout the ages.

Now to him
Who is able
Who is able to do
All that we ask or think
Above all that we ask or think
Abundantly above all that we ask or think
Exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think
According to the power at work within us
To Him
To Him be glory
To Him be glory in the church
To Him be glory in the church

Amen

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

What does God intend for me to know? In your journal, use the following prompts to write some truths that stood out from this week's message.

I never knew...

I was reminded...

A question I still have...

I was challenged...

I was convicted...

A truth I could share...

I was encouraged to...

I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider? In your journal, use the following questions to write some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.

Is there a command to obey?

How am I compelled to exalt God?

Is there a promise to claim?
Is there a principle to follow?

Is there an example to follow?

Am I convicted to confess any sin?

Is there a sin to avoid?

How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?

How can I pray for someone else?

What am I compelled to love or desire?

Do (Yield)

How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.

How do these verses 20-21 encourage us to pray with great expectations? How do they help us understand where our expectations should be aimed?

How do these verses put our lives and our time in history in proper perspective? Why is this perspective important, both in the way we understand our lives and in the way we pray?

What place should doxology have in our own prayer life and personal worship? Why is this an important aspect to include?

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.

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