

**Praying for Others
in Christ
Ephesians 3:13-21**

I. The Prompting of Prayer - 3:13-15

1. They might be distressed by his trials - 13
He explained, his imprisonment was for their glory
This is God's will, working out of His eternal plan
His message from God must be proclaimed
He doesn't want them to be discouraged by this
2. He prays that they might understand – 14-15
With bowed knee he submits to God's will - 14
Father knows what is best for His family – 14-15
He is Father of our Lord Jesus, we can trust Him
His plan is perfect for His family in heaven & earth

II. The Petition of Prayer - 3:16

1. Request - That they might be strengthened
Be spiritually strong in the inner man
Doesn't want them to faint because of his trials
2. Resource- "according to riches of His glory"
Unlimited resources upon which we can draw
God is able to give us all the strength we need
In His provision we can face any trial
3. Reality- "by the power of His Spirit"
Riches of God's provision comes through His Spirit
In His Spirit we have all we need to face trials

III. The Purpose in Prayer - 3:17-19

1. That Christ's presence might be a reality - 17
"Dwell" means to settle down and be at home
Christ is in you, you need to become more aware
2. You might be rooted & grounded in His love - 17
Confident of His love you will not be easily moved
3. You may comprehend the fullness of His love - 18
Its breadth - wide enough to include all
Its length - unending, never ceasing, everlasting
Its depth - how far Christ was willing to go for us
Its height - how high His love has lifted us - 2:6
4. You may experience fullness of His love - 19
That His love might fill our lives
Paul realizes His love is beyond our full knowing
Yet there is room for us to grow in this knowledge
5. You might be filled with the fullness of God - 19
That we might continue to be restored to His image
That the attributes of God might be mirrored in us
God is love – 1 John 4:7-8
All of the fullness of God dwells in Jesus Christ
Christ dwells in us & seeks to conform us to Him
That others might be able to see God in our lives
The fruit of the Spirit is love – Galatians 5:22

IV. The Praise of Prayer - 3:20, 21

As Paul prays he breaks out in praise to God who is able to do all for which he prays

1. God is able to do all that we ask of Him - 20
He is able to go far beyond what we might imagine
He will give us what He knows we need even if not what we ask
Don't limit God nor His power available to us
God can strengthen us & complete His plan in us
2. God is worthy of all glory & honor in the church
Our praise & worship is acceptable to Him in Christ
Our worship & praise will ascend to Him eternally