



EPHESIANS

BLESSED • ACCEPTED • BELONG

*“So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son.”
Ephesians 1:6 (NLT)*

LESSON 9: GOD IS ABLE

As we continue reading this week, let’s not forget Paul circumstances as he prays for his Ephesian friends. He’s in prison under house arrest. Amazingly, he doesn’t pray for himself, but he prays for others. He learned one vital lesson over his many years in ministry: God is able, more than able, to accomplish anything that concerns him. No wonder Paul was able to lay aside his own pain and personal needs to focus on and pray for the saints in Ephesus. He confidently knew God would take care of him. One of Paul’s specific prayers is for the Spirit’s strength to be manifested in these saints, don’t miss the significance of this prayer. No matter in what circumstances we may find ourselves – more than being released from these circumstances - we need the inner strength to stand firm and believe that God is not only able to deliver us, but is able to do far more than we might ever imagine!

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer.

THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 3:14-21 (NLT)

¹⁴When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, ¹⁵the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. ¹⁶I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. ¹⁷Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. ¹⁸And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. ¹⁹May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. ²⁰Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. ²¹Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

This Week’s Memory Verse:

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)

1. In this week's scripture, we find the Apostle Paul falling to his knees and praying for God's people. According to verse 16, what does he pray? _____

2. What do the following verses tell us about God's strength through the Spirit?

a. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: _____

b. Philippians 4:13: _____

c. 2 Timothy 1:7: _____

d. Which of the above verses encourages you and why? _____

3. Paul goes on to talk about God's love in verses 17-19. Read the scriptures and answer the questions below.

a. How will God make His home in your heart? Verse 7a _____

b. What will we understand through God's power? Verse 18 _____

c. Though we cannot fully understand His magnitude, what does Paul pray we experience? Verse 19

4. Verse 20 then gives us the amazing truth of how all this happens in the life of the believer. What is it?

5. What do the following verses tell us about God's power?

a. Matthew 19:26: _____

b. Romans 1:20: _____

c. Colossians 1:16: _____

d. Which of the above examples of God's power is the most convincing and why? _____

Reflect – Respond – Result

As we continue going through God's treasure chest of blessings, we see that we are promised inner strength and everlasting love from our Heavenly Father. However, sadly we don't always take advantage of the blessings available to us. James 4:2b-3 (ESV), "...You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions." All of us have prayed with the wrong motive at some point, and we thank the Lord that in His mercy, he did not grant our request. Can you think of a time when your request went unanswered, and only later you realized why God did not grant your request? It really comes down to trusting Him in all things and asking Him what we should ask for. God would have us pray for His strength, His wisdom and His love in our lives – are you willing? Write your thoughts.
