

LIFE AFTER RESURRECTION
EMPOWERED

Week 2 | 03/26/23

CONNECT

Have you ever been involved in growing anything? A plant? A business? Etc.

DISCUSS

Have someone read Ephesians 3:16–21. As you listen, are there any words or phrases that especially strike you? What questions come to your mind about what it says? Is there anything confusing? Encouraging?

¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

1. Look and think carefully about what Paul prays for his friends at the Church in Ephesus (one of the churches that first received this letter.) What do you think he means when he asks for more "power" (v.16) in your inner being? How is that the same or different from when he prays for "power" in verse 17?
2. Paul prays for two distinct things regarding the person of Christ. First, he prays that he would "dwell in your heart through faith." From what Paul says here, do you think it is up to us whether or not Christ dwells in our hearts? What role does faith play in Christ dwelling in our hearts?
3. The second thing Paul prays for when it comes to Christ is that we may have "the power to comprehend...and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge." Does our knowledge of the love of Christ affect how much Christ loves us? What difference might knowing the love of Christ make in our lives?
4. Maybe the most astounding request Paul makes is: "That you may be filled with all the fullness of God." How can that be?!

PRAY & PERSONALIZE IT

This week the prayer we are called to pray is easy: simply pray this prayer for the people of your group. Then choose two people to pray this prayer for this week: One person should be someone close to you, and the other can be someone you might not know all that well but whom you would want to know the love of Jesus.