

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, with their arms raised and holding a book. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text "Grace Prayers" is written in a large, white, bold, italicized font across the center. To the right of the main title, "Part 4" is written in a smaller, white, italicized font. Below the main title, "Eph 3:14-19 (Topical Message)" is written in a white, italicized font.

Grace Prayers

Part 4

Eph 3:14-19 (Topical Message)

What is the definition of Prayer?

Prayer (Websters Definition) - A solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God or an object of worship.

Websters narrows prayer down to (1) requesting help, or (2) expressing thanks to God (Obviously if you are a Christian you have no other object of Worship).

Prayer is so much more than (1) requesting help, or (2) expressing thanks. Prayer is also worship, praise, and listening to God. God communicates back to your spirit (Listening Pray) for example.

Prayer is simply communicating with God – It's not only a one-way communication, but a two-way communication (Back and Forth). God hears our prayers, and answers our prayers. There are only 3 answers to our prayers (Yes, No, Wait).

Listening Prayer – Listen for God voice (thought in your mind) – Experience Internal Peace, God Gives External Confirmations. God never condemns but lifts up, guides and reveals truth. Condemnation is from the Evil One. The Evil One tries to put thoughts in our minds condemning us, tempting us, and pressuring us to doubt God. Praying in this way is life changing, and thwarts the Evil Ones attacks in your life. ***Listening Prayer is a powerful way God uncovers past wounds, hurts, wrong thinking and gives one direction & guidance.*** Amen! Praying this way is available to all believers (Not a special gift, or for a so-called super Christian).

Brothers & Sisters - Prayer is simply communicating with God – It's not only a one-way communication, but a two-way communication (Back and Forth). God hears our prayers, and answers our prayers. And God communicates back to his Children. Most of us need to learn how to listen for the voice of God. Amen!

Are you Listening?

Have you ever asked God, what do you want to tell me today? Or what do you want me to know today? – Try it, and listen: ***Inner Voice, Thought, Peace, and External Confirmations!***

Paul Loved Christ and knew that belief in the Gospel message was the only way to give man life, and give man a new heart. That was true in Paul's day, and it is still true today! Amen! Paul also knew that Christ is in every believer, and works in and thru every believer. Knowing who one has become is a life long process. **The Gospel is the only answer to our problems of the day!**

Paul penned 2 prayers in the book of Ephesians. We looked at the 1st prayer 2 weeks ago Eph 1:16-19. This was a prayer for the Ephesian believer to know and understand their new "Identity in Christ", and what they now possess as a child of God.

The 2nd prayer Paul penned in Chapter 3:14-19. This prayer is that the Ephesian believers come to know and experience the Love of Christ. Paul *prays the God's Grace & Love would be unleashed in the Ephesians, and thru the Ephesians with 3 prayer requests.* Thus, the title of my message (Grace Prayers).

Unleashing Requests

- 1. Strengthening With Power**
- 2. Rooting and Grounding in Love** leading to
- 3. Experiencing Christ's Love**

Ephesians 3:14-19 (NASB)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

1. Strengthening With Power

Ephesians 3:16b-17a (NASB)

^{16b}to be **strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,** ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

Paul request that the Ephesians be strengthen with power through His Spirit (Holy Spirit) in the inner man.

To understand this request, we need to understand what is the inner man, and what is the outer man: Man is made up of a Body, Soul & Spirit (Ref 1st Thes 5:23).

I like how Watchman Nee describes this (From Book – Breaking of the Outer Man for the Release of the Spirit)

Inner Man – Spirit (Man's Human Spirit connected to Holy Spirit)

Outer Man – Soul (Man's Mind, Will & Emotions), also Referred to as Heart

Outer Most Man – Body (Physical Body)

Paul prays that the Ephesians inner man is strengthen in the (Spirit to spirit) connection
(Realization of the Connection – Permanently Connected when saved)

Why?

So that **Christ** may **dwell** in the Ephesians (**Outer Man – Soul – Heart**)

Dwell – to be at home with, to settle down in

We Know from Scripture Christ is God, and that God is love

1 John 4:8b (NASB)

⁸ God is love.

Christ = Love

We could paraphrase this prayer to say:

*I pray that your Spirit – spirit connection is empowered so that you allow Christ (**Love**) to be at home in your **Soul (Mind, Will & Emotions)** by faith and dependance in Him!*

2. Rooting and Grounding in Love

Ephesians 3:17b-18 (NASB)

^{17b} *and* that you, **being rooted and grounded in love**, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth

Paul prays that the Ephesians be rooted and grounded in Love

Rooted – to cause to take root

Grounded – firmly established

In Love, we know Christ is Love. *We could say that Paul's is praying that the Ephesians are rooted and Grounded in Christ (Who is Love!)*

Christ = Love

This reinforces what Paul prayed in his 1st request, that Christ would be at home in the Ephesians soul, and **NOW** that they would be **rooted** and grounded in Christ who is LOVE! **WOW! WOW! WOW!**

So that they may be able to comprehend with all the saints (Believer is a Saint – A Saint is a Believer) what is the **breadth, length, height and depth** of Christ and His Love!

3. Experiencing Christ's Love

Ephesians 3:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ **and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge**, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Paul prays that the Ephesians know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge. The Amplified Bible says it this way:

Ephesians 3:19a (AMP)

¹⁹ *[That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]*

To know practically, through the experience for yourselves the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge without the experience! Paul already prayed to God, that Christ would be at home in the Ephesian's souls by faith, and that they would be rooted and grounded in Christ (Love), and now that they would know practically through experience the Love of Christ. In otherwards, now to experience Christ's Love in their lives, so they know it!

Brothers & Sisters - Paul prayed to God, that Christ would be (1) at home in the Ephesian's souls by faith, and (2) that they would be rooted and grounded in Christ (Love), and (3) now that they would know practically through experience the Love of Christ.

So,

that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Filled up with the Love of Christ (Fullness of God) – so the Ephesians overflow with the Love of Christ to the outside world: Amen!

A photograph of a forest floor. A large tree trunk is the central focus, heavily covered in vibrant green moss. The ground is a mix of moss, fallen brown leaves, and some green ferns. The background shows a dense forest of thin trees with some green foliage, suggesting a temperate forest in late autumn or early spring.

Christ = Love

***Is He Rooted & Grounded in Your Soul by
Faith?***

Eph 1:16-19

Grace Prayers Part 4

Unleashing

Strengthening With Power

Rooting and Grounding in Love leading to

Experiencing Christ's Love

Eph 3:14-19

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