

# Northland Christian Church

## Group Discussion Guide

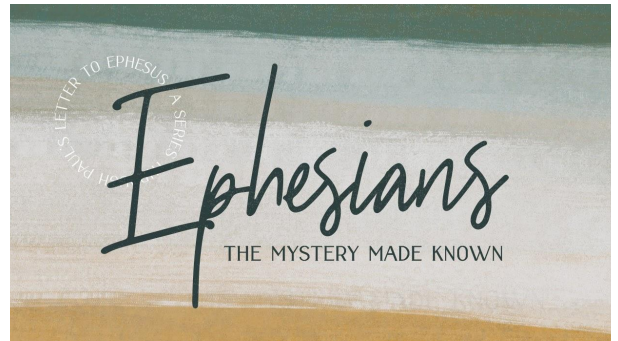
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**Series: Ephesians – Week 9**

**Title: The Father and the Family**

**Text: Ephesians 3:14-21**

**Date: December 13, 2020**



## How to Use This

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• Use the questions in each section below as a springboard for discussion. Do not feel like you have to follow the study guide religiously or hit every question. These questions are designed to help spark discussion. Refer to them as needed.

**Big Idea: We pray you experience the love of God so you can express the love of God.**

### Connection (*give each person an opportunity to answer the following*)

- Have you ever received the exact gift you wanted for Christmas? What was it?
- What was the last thing you desperately needed and received it?
- What was that like?

### Engage the Scriptures

*Read Ephesians 3:14-21 with the group.*

### Discussion Questions

#### Section 1

*We should pray with confidence in the truth of the Gospel.*

*We have a great Father in Heaven that wants to hear from His kids.*

- How do you feel when you talk to God?
- How does your prayer time emulate or differ from prayer the way that Paul describes?
- What would need to occur for you to pray to God with both humility and confidence?

#### Section 2

*We should pray for Spiritual Strength.*

- Do you hesitate to pray to Jesus for spiritual strength? Why or why not?
- What would be most helpful in the long run: an individual solution to a circumstance and challenge OR increased spiritual strength and power through the Holy Spirit? Why?
- What are some of God's "glorious riches" that might be helpful in our lives?

### Section 3

*If we are properly rooted, properly constructed on a foundation of Christ's love, nothing can shake us.*

- How does Christ live in us?

*To dwell can also mean "to be at home", it gives the idea of settling down and being comfortable.*

- What are some possible advantages to Jesus being comfortable living in our hearts?
- What was life like before God made this way to dwell in us through His Son, Jesus Christ?

### Section 4

*We should pray for the Fullness of the love of God.*

- Is it possible for the fullness of God's love to fill us completely? Why or Why not?
- What would that look like in your life? In Topeka? In your neighborhood?
- What are some examples of the height of Gods love? Depth? Length? Width? Read these passages for more ideas: Psalm 103:11-12, Micah 7:19, Jeremiah 31:3

### If time Discuss

- If this is the plan and intention of God's will for us, what hinders or limits you from experiencing Him from completely and fully calling His home your body's address?

#### **Prayer as a vehicle for transformation!**

"C.S. Lewis wrote about receiving this kind of love. Not just hearing about it or understanding it but about allowing it to penetrate deep into your soul. He said most of us, when we hear about love, we let it cover us the way a coat of paint covers a wall. It changes the look. It's undeniably obvious, but it's also only on the surface. He said the ultimate goal is receiving the love of God like a dye or stain that soaks right through us, to the core of who we are. Think about that analogy. God wants his love to soak into us and change every fiber of our being. He wants it to get into our bones.

### Apply It - Time in Prayer

Take a couple of minutes to silently pray, asking God to reveal/show you how He wants to live in you fully and what He would want you to empty yourself of to make more room for Him?

**Take some time to allow for silent prayer, and then *close by praying with and for one another.***