



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on May 23, 2021

Sermon:

Text: Ephesians 3:14-21

Gathering Guidelines

-Watch Natasha's intro video for this week.

Take some time to worship

Play a worship song. Pray to Jesus. Be in His presence.

Wonder by Amanda Cook and Bethel -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnPtnnaVrGA>

Unfailing Love by Chris Tomlin [with lyrics] -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPJvh2FrJ_c

Read

Ephesians 3:14-21

Discussion Questions

Question 1 – One major theme in Ephesians has been the idea of family. Last week the focus was on how the Gentiles are now grafted into the family of God with the Jews. This multicultural, varied worldview, and diverse family is exactly how God intended for His wisdom to be expressed to the world (3:10).

Has there been a time when the family of God has come to support you?

Have there been times where you have been able to support someone else in the Church?

Question 2 – Read Ephesians 3:14-16

These verses state God's glorious riches provide power through the Holy Spirit within us - This is an insane concept to understand! For thousands of years before Jesus, the only way to experience God's glory was through the Tabernacle. Even then, the High Priest was the only one allowed to enter into the Holy of Holies to minister to God. However, now God's living, glorious Spirit is within us to strengthen us!

What has been your understanding regarding the indwelling/baptism of the Holy Spirit?

(Further discussion point - skim over Acts 2 and discuss the first churches experience with the Holy Spirit.)

Question 3 – Read Ephesians 3:17-19

We are a vessel for God; he is able to dwell within us by the works of Jesus! Through this indwelling, you are rooted and grounded in love which also strengthens you to comprehend God's love. Not just to grasp it but **KNOW** the love that surpasses knowledge.

What do you think the difference is between 'knowing' God's love and having the 'knowledge' of God's love is? Is there a difference?

You can start the conversation by taking some time to discuss what your understanding of God's love is.

Question 4 – Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV) says "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

As Pastor Brian said, Paul is telling the Ephesians again of the impossible yet very real action he has done. And all of this was done in His own power. This is the power that *is* at work in us!

As Pastor Brian asked, does this mean that there is nothing we should be doing? Is there anything left for us to do?

(Further discussion point – how does Paul end off the prayer (v.21)? How can our fights, and misunderstandings be an expression of God's glory?)

Invitation and Mission for this week

This week's invitation is to pray for people in your life who do not know the love of Jesus or have walked away from it. During the week, also take a moment to reach out to them to ask how they are doing!

You are encouraged even now to take time to pray out loud for them (you do not have to mention any names).

Also feel free to ask for any prayer requests from HC members!