

LG | Leader

[Ephesians 3:13-19]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

It is likely that everyone present had a very busy day, maybe even a trying day. Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- When you reflect back on Sunday's sermon, what impacted you the most? Anything that stirred your affection towards the Lord?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Read our primary text. Who can give us a recap of how we have landed in this passage? What has transpired in the book of Ephesians thus far? What are some the main topics Paul has discussed?
Paul's opening prayer / By Grace Through Faith / Unity / The Mystery of the Gospel Revealed to Gentiles / Etc.
2. What does it mean that "from God, every family in heaven and earth is named?"
Since God is the creator of all things, He names and gives identity to all created things. In Adam, God bestows trust upon mankind in giving us this naming function and authority as His viceroy.
3. What is happening in this text? What is Paul's physical posture in verse 14? What is the source of his praise and adoration (v.15-17)?
Paul is praying on bended knee. He is humbly approaching God, acknowledging who He is and the "riches of His glory."
4. Have you ever spoken to the Father on your knees? Would you like to as a group now?
[Optional of course, but some may desire/need to have this encounter with God – And we as leaders have to continue to model what it looks like to meet with the Lord]
5. Paul describes a supernatural comprehension, a knowing of the love of Christ that surpasses intellectual knowledge. According to this passage, what is our means of this supernatural comprehension?
Verse 16 says that God uses his Holy Spirit to lead us to a comprehension of Christ that the saints also had --- knowing the breadth and length and height and depth and love of Christ.

6. Paul spends the opening 3 chapters discussing God's truth and then he uses this text to urge readers to experience God. What can we learn from this?

Scripture is the starting point for most believers (God's revelation of Himself through His word is how we make sense of our experience), but intellectual knowledge alone is not enough (experiential avoidance), we must experience God. God's power and love is to be both known and experienced. On the other side of the spectrum, experience alone is not enough either, this only causes one to head down a path of mysticism. So together, we need to seek both truth and experience, and Paul says in this passage that the Holy Spirit can help us with both of these things.

7. Quiz Question: There are different types of prayer in the Bible, what type of prayer is this?

A. Intercessory Prayer – He is praying on behalf of the Ephesians

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.