

Review:

Verses 1 – 13 were parenthetical. Paul was about to praise God for all he's done for us in making the Jew and Gentile one creating one temple made out of us as living stones. People knew he was in prison. He wanted his readers to know that he was in prison for the Gospel to spread the Word, which was for their glory.

Verse 14: (A lot is packed into this one short verse!)

For this reason

Refers back to verse 1 which refers back to end of chapter 2 about the Jew and Gentile becoming one! Paul viewed the church as the **poem of God**, the temple of the Holy Spirit, the mystery of the ages, he went to God in prayer that these great truths might become realities in the lives of believers. (McGee)

Poem is an expression of one's **heart**.

Kneel {bow my knees} before the Father.

Father GK Pater Aramic: Abba "Little Ones" Little child comes to dad looking up into his eyes. Dad melts!

What is prayer?

Prayer is talking with God. As we talk to him, he speaks to us. In an audible voice? As I'm praying, something comes into my conscious mind. He tells me what to write, do, say, or gives me an answer to a problem unrelated to my prayer.

Bow Knees

Why does a person bow before anybody throughout history? Pope, Kings, appearance of an angel. I Sam 24:8 Dave - cave, I Kings 18:37-39 Elijah – Ahab - fire, Daniel 2:46 Nebi - Dan, Rev 19:10 Sometimes I wonder about our position in prayer. Do we need to be in a certain position? NO. Why would we want to go down to our knees?

Apostle James called [Camel knees](#). He was so fervent in his prayers that he developed heavily calloused knees!

Where do we pray?

We can pray anywhere, but there's something special about a "Holy Room", a special place where our prayer time happens. Fav place to read a book. Do we need to build a special room for prayer? Man Cave.

When do we pray?

We can pray anytime but we should set aside our "best time". Everybody has a time of day like a morning person, evening person, etc. We want to give the first fruits of our time to him in prayer. Personally, I like to start my day in prayer. It's a way to get the day off to a good start. Some people need their coffee, tea, etc to start their day. Those are refreshing for a bit, but how much more refreshing and fulfilling would be starting the day in prayer?

Length of prayer?

All of Paul's prayers are brief. Eph 1:15-21; 3:14-19 are **one long** sentence in GK

Matt 6:6-8 Jesus' words (don't babble like pagans)

Rem Peter who tried to walk on water to Christ? His prayer when sinking, "Lord save me!"

Its not HOW MUCH we say but what we say.

- We can talk too much and not give HIM time to talk to us! Be still before the Lord!
- Keep paper and pencil beside you when praying to record what he shares

Importance of Prayer: Movie called War Room. When we pray, we are in a spiritual war!

Prayer is tough. Colossians 4:12 "wrestling in prayer" 2 Corinthians 1:8-11

Col 4:2 Devote self to prayer, I Thess 5:17 Pray continuously, II Tim 2:8 Lift up holy hands in prayer

Jer 33:3. Israel was in a bad way here. Call unto me and I will answer you showing you great and mighty things.

Ephesians 3:14 – 21

Verse 15:

“His Family” Not just the church. There will be believers along with people saved after the rapture of the church. (Jews and Gentiles)

Derives its name?

Acts 11:26 at Antioch first called Christians. Christ and IAN... one with or a party of.

Eph 1:10 “under one head” Christ!

We are his: Eph 1:5 adopted Eph 1:18 glorious inheritance in the saints!

Word Play: (v14) **Father** GK: Pater (v15) **Family** GK: Patria Same root of PAT

Verse 16:

Out of Better: “According to [measure of] ” Rockefeller caddy story

Glorious: GK: the quality of splendid, remarkable appearance.

Matt 6:29 Not even Solomon in all his glory/splendor was arrayed like the flowers of the field.

What is God’s glory? His totality! His whole revealed perfection! His unchanging nature!

Riches: GK: an abundance of possessions exceeding the norm. Eph 1:7-8 riches of his grace lavished on us!

Strengthen GK: To make strong, to establish. Be strong and powerful to overcome resistance. Why?

What resistance might we encounter?

Family, friends, work, play, hobbies, fatigue, etc

Power GK: Dynamus dynamic living power!

Super Charged!!

Through His Spirit God’s Spirit touches His world for Christ through us! →

- Moves
- Consuls
- Comforts

Inner Being: Mine: new nature which is the “real you”! We are a new creation in Christ!

Verse 17:

Dwell GK: A certain, fixed, durable dwelling in contrast to a tent of a nomad. Not to just dwell, but to feel completely at home and comfortable in the dwelling. How comfortable does Christ feel in your life?

Paul is praying for a closer walk and relationship with Christ in which he FEELS at home in us!!

Heart Mine: The very being of who and what we are.

All **through faith**. We need to believe we can live a life that makes being in us a place one would feel comfortable. Faith was necessary to believe Christ’s death atoned for my sins. Faith believes we can allow ourselves to be a place where Christ comfortably dwells.

Both words below are **perfect tense** participles **passive**

Rooted GK: Like a well rooted tree. Firmly fixed and constant. **Louw:** to become strengthened, with focus upon the source of such strength. That source is Christ!

No matter how many or how hard the wind may blow, the tree stays put!

Grounded GK: Architectural term referring to the foundation upon which we build. GK: **Louw:** to provide a firm basis for belief or practice. Cause to be steadfast!

A tree growing in nutrient rich ground that is well watered! That tree will prosper through all types of storms.

In **LOVE:** Agape. All of this grounding and rooting occurs only in **the petri dish of love.**

I John 4:7-12 READ

Ephesians 3:14 – 21

Verse 18: Paul talks about that love now...

Able (power) GK: to be in full strength. Fully able

Comprehend GK: Comes from a root word “to overcome”. To lay hold of, seize, with eagerness, suddenness. To understand something not previously understood. We get it and desire to have it!

With ALL of the saints – Connecting with saints is critical for our own spiritual well-being.

We learn more with others than we do in a Lone Ranger lifestyle. How well we connect with other saints has an impact on our spiritual life. Do believers run to us when they see us or do they run from us? Remember Peter telling men in marriages to treat their wives well so that nothing will hinder their prayers?

Wide Long High Deep **Love of Christ.**

His love is so deep beyond understanding, but he wants us to know the fullness of his love for us more and more with each passing day, week, month, and year!

Psalm 103:12 As far as east is from west

Verse: 19

Know GK: Know experientially through experience Active voice Verbal Noun.

We must exert the effort to get to know/experience him personally and more intimately. We don't learn it through Jesus pouring it into our heads! We learn and know by experience.

Surpasses GK: Far exceeding the ordinary. **Knowledge GK:** Present and fragmentary, ie bits and pieces.

Filled to the **measure GK** Total quantity with emphasis on completeness.

All the fullness of God

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]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!

Verse: 20 **LIFE VERSE potential!!**

More than can ask or dare (AMP) imagine

Power GK: able capable ‘achieving power’

Do more than ask or imagine examples

I Kings 17:7-16 Widow from Zarephath and oil? II Kings 4:1-7 Widow and son's debt and Oil

Work GK: active, effective, operative power with a focus on the energy or force behind the work. Who is the force behind all we do? Jesus!!! Phil 2:13 God in you who wills and acts according to his good pleasure.

Romans 11:20 to explain trembling if necessary.

God gives us the power to do whatever we need to have happen!

Read Amplified bible for v 20.

Verse: 21

Glory in the church.

What does that mean?

The church should be a reflection of our Heavenly Father!

Applications to Us:

1. What's your prayer life look like?

a. How often?

- 1) When you have a free moment?
- 2) When you remember?
- 3) How often do you set aside a specific time in advance for daily prayer?

b. Where and When?

- 1) On the walk to your car for work?
- 2) Driving or riding to work?
- 3) Do you have a special place and special time set aside for him?

3. How well do you know the love of Christ?

a. You are saved.

b. But are you experiencing Christ's love in an ongoing basis?

2. How comfortable do you think Christ feels dwelling inside of you?

a. Think of a visit to a house in which you did not feel comfy. Maybe you had an "obligation to be there" but really did not want to be there.

b. Compare that feeling to visiting a home you LOVE to visit.