

EPHESIANS | Embracing The Power

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In Awe at what God has done

Ephesians 3:14 (NIV)

“For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.”

I am in awe of what God has done and what he is going to do.

The apostle Paul was the worst kind of sinner. He was in awe that God used him to preach to the gentiles, which pulled the Jews and gentiles together.

I have a huge father wound, my mother died when I was four. I went to live with my grandparents in west Texas, with a godly grandmother, and a grandfather who did not give affection. I was abused by a trusted friend. I struggled with trying to get holy.

When I was saved during the Jesus Movement, I was able to embrace a new life.

I WAS IN AWE OF WHAT GOD HAD DONE FOR ME!

Embracing Holy Spirit Power

Ephesians 3:15-17a (NIV)

“I pray that out of His glorious riches He will strengthen you with **power** through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”

Jesus told His disciples that it was better that he leave (ascend to heaven), so that the Holy Spirit would come. The Holy Spirit lives inside of us and teaches us the truth.

I was baptized in the Holy Spirit when I was 39.

My life was transformed.

I learned to LISTEN and OBEY!

When evil would come into my life, I would command it to go back to hell where it belonged.

I learned to live in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, and how to know His voice.

Embracing the power of love

Ephesians 3:17b-19 (NIV)

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have **power**, together with all the Lord’s people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled in the measure of all the fullness of God.

1 Corinthians 13 says that “The greatest of these is love.”

Matthew 22:34-38 asks which is the greatest commandment, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.... and.... Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

If you have God’s love, you will forgive no matter how large or how small.

Matthew 18:34-35 tells how the Father will treat you if you don’t forgive people who have wronged you.
Don’t wait for them to repent.

Embracing the power of Godly imagination

Ephesians 3:20-21

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, According to His **power** that is at work within us, To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus Through all generations, for ever and ever. Amen

I tried so hard to shut down godless imagination — I choked off godly imagination as well.

Romans 8:29 says that we are destined to be like Jesus.

2 Corinthians 3:18 says that we are being transformed into His likeness.

I believe the Word of God more than I believe my own emotions!

1 John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

He will cleanse us from jealousy, greed, and pride!

I imagine the New Jerusalem descending from heaven, 1,400 cubic miles worth!

Hosea 34:5 says that the Israelites will live many days without a king or sacrifice... but in the last days they will come trembling to the Lord.

I can imagine all the synagogues filled with worshipers!

I can imagine all our children walking with the Lord!

Discussion Questions

1. How many of you are in awe of what Good is doing in your life?
2. How many of you see a need to embrace a greater measure of the Holy Spirit in your life?
3. Do you know someone who is difficult to forgive, but with God’s help you are doing it?
4. Can you read / imagine it / walk forward in it?

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