

**Sermon: A Prayer for Realization**

**June 13, 2021**

**Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-21**

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ are part of God's spiritual family. (14-15); John 1:12**

**II. Paul prays that believers will be \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit. (16)**

**a) The inner man is the part of me where the Holy Spirit dwells and is the \_\_\_\_\_ of my mind.**

**b) The Spirit empowers the believer to live each day in the Lord. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

**III. Paul prays we \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ in our souls. (17) John 14:23; John 14:16-18; Hebrews 5:12-14 Colossians 2:6-7**

**IV. The last prayer is for believers to experience the fullness of Christ. (18-19); Colossians 2:9-10; Colossians 3:15-17**

**V. A great benediction. (20-21)**

**Thought for the Day** The inner man is my spirit; the part of me that communes with God. Awareness of his presence strengthens me. My thoughts are many diverting my focus even when praying or reading the Bible. That lessens Christ's ability to strengthen the inner man. Dr. Lutzer writes: *We must ask the question is Jesus residing in our heart as a tolerated visitor or as an honored and most welcome guest. The more comfortable Christ is in our hearts, the better we will grasp the love of God in all of its breath, length, height, and depth. ..We must willingly open every part of our hearts and let Christ renovate it so that He might feel very much at home within me. We need to give him the key to every room inviting Him into my mind, my emotions and even into the closets where I have hidden my secret sins.*

This is describing a surrendered will which has a desire to learn as much about Jesus as is possible. Sometimes we feel Christ's love so strongly that it is almost as if we can sense his arms around us.

There are times when life is causing to face a fear so intense that if that fear comes to pass, we are afraid we won't be able to go on.

When we understand the breath, length, height and depth of Christ's love we will be able to remember that nothing can separate from His love. When Jesus is guiding us and holding us we can face anything. So many people live in fear but this prayer of Paul's asks God to strengthen the inner man providing faith and hope that relies on a God who is able to deliver, desires to hear from us in prayer and invites into worship so that we will know the truth that our God is able to give us peace in the midst of any storm. **Pastor Bruce**

What's happening with our Youth Ministry today?

## Junior Disciples: AM Church Service

Today we are continuing curriculum called “The Core”. Over the next year we’ll be learning about the 8 “roots” of discipleship, Apologetics, Community, Identity, Kingdom, Knowledge, Outreach, Rescue and Worship. This week we’ll continue in our “Outreach” root. How do you know if you’re lost? Usually, you can determine whether or not you’re lost just by looking around. Don’t recognize your surroundings? That means you’re lost. But it’s harder to know if someone is spiritually lost – mainly because most people don’t know what it means to be spiritually found. A person can be confident, happy, and good, but still lost. This lesson reminds students that salvation (being found) is about an intimate relationship with Jesus, not just “being good.” Jesus takes joy in welcoming lost people into his presence once they’re saved. We, too, should find joy in sharing the hope of Christ with others. There is also a parent’s guide that goes along with these lessons that includes activities your families can do to continue learning during the week. Please let me know if you are not receiving my emails.

## Senior High Youth Group: Thursday Nights at 7 PM

On Thursday nights our senior high youth group will be meeting in the youth building. This week we are starting a brand new study called, “This is the Day” with lessons from former NFL QB Tim Tebow. Sometimes life feels rigid – as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we’re afraid of taking a step of faith. Or maybe we’re too injured from the past to move forward. Or maybe life threw us a curveball and we still don’t know how to react. No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. In this inspirational series, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God’s glory. He challenges us to step out in courage because this is the day to act.

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow’r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

## How Deep The Father's Love For Us