

POWER TO KNOW GOD



Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of December 2, 2018

Eph 3:14-21

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we were reminded that Christians are to be rooted and grounded in love. How does a Christian become rooted and grounded in love?

2 Likewise, how does a Christian allow Christ to have control of their heart?

3 How have you participated in God's love? Who truly has control of your heart? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

1 **Phil 4:7, ESV** – ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Cor 13:2, ESV – ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Rom 8:9-11, ESV – ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

When reading passages about the power of God, we see that His power far surpasses anything we know or understand. Why is this truth foundational for Christians?

What holds Christians back from fully living in this truth?

2 **John 15:9-17, ESV** – ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

Rom 5:8, ESV – ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Looking at the passages above, how would you describe the love of God?

Looking back to Ephesians 3:17-19, we see that Paul prays for the Ephesians to be rooted and grounded in God's love. Why was this so important to Paul?

Like the Ephesians, we need to be rooted and grounded in love. What holds you back from allowing God's love to work in and through you?

3 **2 Cor 6:16, ESV** – ¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

1 Cor 3:16-17, ESV – ¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

What does it mean for Christians to be the temple of God and His dwelling place?

As God's temple, Christians must relinquish control of their hearts to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. What holds you back from allowing God to take control of your heart? Explain.

What steps can you take to overcome these barriers in your life?

TAKING IT HOME

Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3 has been referred to as the church's prayer. He prays for the power of God and the love of God in the life of believers, and that Christ will rule in their hearts. Why do you think this has been referred to as the church's prayer? What is your personal prayer in light of this study? What is your prayer for the church?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 115:1
John 14:16-18
Rom 7:22
2 Cor 4:16
2 Cor 7:1
Col 1:11
1 Tim 1:4