

*current sermon series*

# PASTORAL PRAYERS

for the **CHURCH**

# An Empowered People

The Source: God- from His riches in glory

The Conduit: The Holy Spirit

The Work: 2 Petitions

1. That God might strengthen us with power
2. That we might have power to grasp the limitless dimensions of the love of Christ.

The Location: Our inner being

# Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

# An Empowered People

Paul does not pray against their enemies or their temptations, but he prays that they would be strengthened in their inner being.

# An Empowered People

“It is not the temptations that meet us on the streets that determine our conduct; it is the heart of the man who faces them. Two men may face the same conditions; one falls, the other stands. The difference is not in the temptation but in the heart of the man.”

- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

## 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this light and momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

## 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

<sup>18</sup>as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Inner Being

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graph TD; A[Inner Being] --> B[Reasoning]; A --> C[Feelings]; B --> D[Attitude and Behavior]; C --> D;
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Reasoning

Feelings

Attitude and Behavior

# An Empowered People

Rarely will you feel your way into correct thinking, but you can think your way into correct feelings.

THE  
TRUTH

Inner Being

Reasoning

Feelings

Attitude and Behavior

# Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

# An Empowered People

The Second Petition:

That we might have power to grasp the  
limitless dimensions of the love of Christ.

# Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

# Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,  
<sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.