

Prayer

A Conversation With God

A Call To Powerful Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:14-15; Ephesians 3:14-21



Sermon Notes | Jeff Randleman | October 4, 2026

...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.

– 2 Chronicles 7:14-15 (ESV)

Two Prayer Mistakes We Make:

Our prayers are too small.

Our prayers are too general.

Small and general prayers do not often move God to specific action.

Paul's Purpose in Prayer – Ephesians 3:14-21

I bow my knees... A posture of prayer can help you stay focused.

According to... God's riches are big enough.

Rooted and grounded in love... God's love surpasses knowledge.

Far more abundantly... God's power is far greater than I can imagine...

And he chooses to work within us!

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The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

– Psalm 121:7-8 (ESV)

Matters for Reflection and Discussion:

1. Read Ephesians 3:14-21. What stands out to you most about Paul's prayer here? What does it teach us about the kind of things we should be praying for?
2. Paul begins by bowing his knees before the Father. How can our posture, both physically and spiritually, help us become more focused and intentional in prayer?
3. Paul prays according to God's glorious riches. How does understanding God's abundance change the way we approach him with our requests?
4. What does it mean to be strengthened with power through the Holy Spirit in our inner being? Where do you most need God's strength right now?
5. Paul prays that Christ would dwell in our hearts through faith. How is that different from simply knowing about Jesus or attending church?
6. What does it mean to be rooted and grounded in love? How does a deeper understanding of God's love affect the way we treat others?
7. Why do you think Paul prays for believers to know a love that surpasses knowledge? How can we grow in our experience of Christ's love?
8. Paul describes God as able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think. What might keep us from praying with that kind of confidence?
9. How could our church's prayer life change if we began praying more intentionally for spiritual growth, strengthened faith, and the glory of God?
10. What is one specific prayer from Paul's example that you can begin praying regularly for yourself or someone else this week?