God’s Finger Print
Ephesians 3:14-19

Sermon Outline

A. We are His Family (vs. 14-15):

1. For this reason is an expression that is repeated from verse 1 when Paul was about to pray. He then broke off before finishing the sentence in order to elaborate on the mystery, the body of Christ, and on his ministry of dispensing the mystery. ¹¹
2. Paul continuously bowing in prayer demonstrates his total dependence on the will of God to fulfill his request.
3. Paul by bowing his knees shows respect for our Father’s will.
4. Our lives is continuously in the presences of our Father (heavenly places; Acts 17:27-28).
5. The Father is the author of our physical and spiritual birth.
6. Because God is our Father we are His family.
7. Jew and Gentile we are one household of faith.
8. Deriving God’s names means that this is how we continuously become like Him on the inside.
9. God continuously established Himself as Lord over everyone.
10. God continuously shapes each person’s identity and determines their role (Ephesians 4:1-10).

B. God is at Work in Us (vs. 16-17):

1. Paul’s prayer is that God once and for all permanently put in place what Paul is praying for.
2. What God provides is based on all that He is and has for us.
3. Paul’s prayer is that God lavishes this upon us (1:7, 18; 2:7; 3:8, 16).
4. God provides to us out of all that is excellent about His nature.
5. The strengthening is endless.
6. Because a believer is already filled with the Spirit (1:3) they are now prepared to be strengthened.
7. As believers God prepares us to be strong to dominate all evil influences (6:10).
8. “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13).
9. As believers God blesses us with the ability and mighty capability to overcome all resistances or obstacles we may experience on a daily basis.
10. The Spirit of God is the means through which a believer experiences strength and power (1:3, 1:15-21).

11. The Spirit of God becomes the core of our lives (The inner man is the center of the person life). The Spirit of God seeks to impact the rational self or inner personality of a person (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 4:8-9; Romans 12:2).

12. Paul’s desire is that Christ settles within our hearts.

13. With the Holy Spirit in the inner man Christ can impact how a believers thinks, feels and becomes the center of all that a believer does.

14. Christ dwells in our hearts when we exercise complete confidence in His Word with a deep conviction to practice what He teaches us.

15. Christ dwells in our hearts when we are totally surrendered to His will.

16. The Holy Spirit and Christ presence leads to us being completely established and settled in the nature of Christ; His love.

17. When Christ is established in us through faith we make deliberate choices to walk in His divine will. This processes leads us to become His disciples (Matthew 22:36-40; John 13:34-35).

18. Christ dwelling in our hearts directs us to an unselfish desire to care for the needs of others (Philippians 2:1-5; 1 John 2:3-6; 4:7-12).

C. God’s Finger Print is Our Blue Print (vs. 18-19):

1. With the Holy Spirit in our inner man and Christ in our hearts God’s love empowers us to develop the ability to understand all that God has to say to us (John 15:7-11).

2. This is what leads to our hearts being enlightened as discussed in 1:17-18.

3. Our comprehension is the same as anyone who lived holy in the sight of God.

4. What is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height? This sort of knowledge would be continually growing, for we could never measure the dimensions (Colossians 1:9-10).²¹²

5. With Christ dwelling in our hearts a believer is not only grounded in His love they come to understand what His love is all about (1 John 2:5).

6. The love of Christ continuously and extraordinarily goes beyond all we can ever come to understand (1 John 1:5-7; 2 Peter 1:3-11).

7. Being strengthened by the Holy Spirit in our inner man leads to the indwelling of Christ influencing how we feel and think (our heart). This causes the believer to not just comprehend the knowledge of God but to also develop a spirit of discernment. This spirit of discernment lead a believer to experience all that Christ is committed to do for them and through them. This process causes the believer to come to full maturity.

8. The believer at this point can powerfully experience the nature of God fully working within them. This empowers a believer to consistently demonstrate the character of God (Philippians 1:21; 2 Peter 1:2-7).
