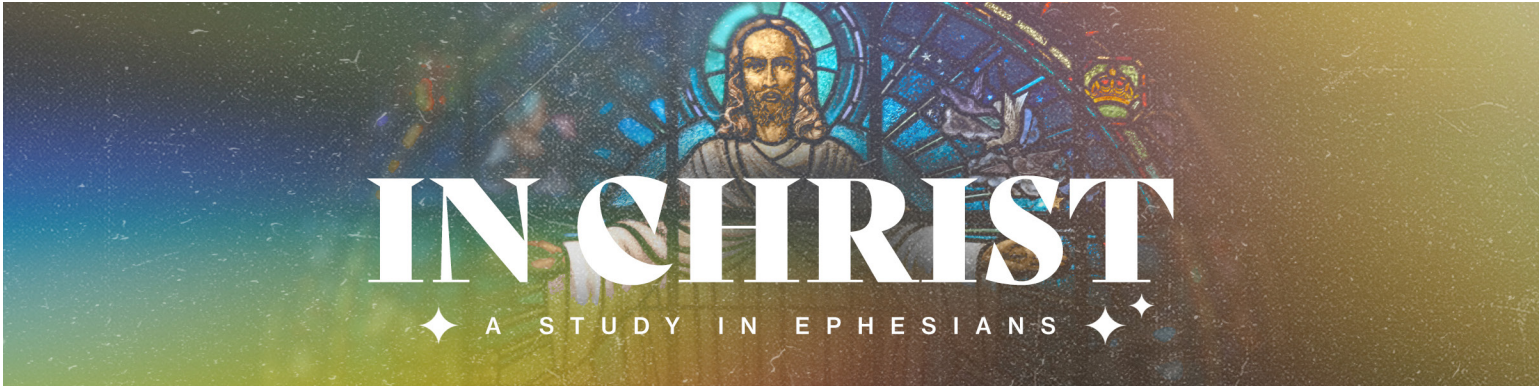




IN CHRIST

✦ A STUDY IN EPHESIANS ✦

DAY 1: APPROACHING THE THRONE

DEVOTIONAL:

How do we approach God in prayer? Paul shows us a beautiful balance in Ephesians 3. He comes with both boldness and humility—boldness because in Christ we have access to the Father, and humility because we recognize who sits on the throne. This balance transforms our prayer life. When we approach God with only boldness, we risk presumption. When we come with only humility, we might never approach at all. But the gospel gives us both: the confidence to draw near and the reverence to remember who we’re addressing. God invites us to bring our brokenness before Him. Like a master conductor who can create beautiful music from broken instruments, God can craft a masterpiece from the broken pieces of our lives. Our weakness becomes the very stage on which His strength is displayed. Today, consider how you approach God. Do you come boldly because of Christ’s work on your behalf? Do you come humbly, recognizing God’s majesty? The Father welcomes you to come just as you are—with your needs, your questions, your burdens—because in Christ, you have been given access to the throne of grace.

BIBLE VERSE:

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.”
- Ephesians 3:14-15

REFLECTION QUESTION:

What keeps you from approaching God with both boldness and humility in your prayers? How might your prayer life change if you embraced both attitudes?

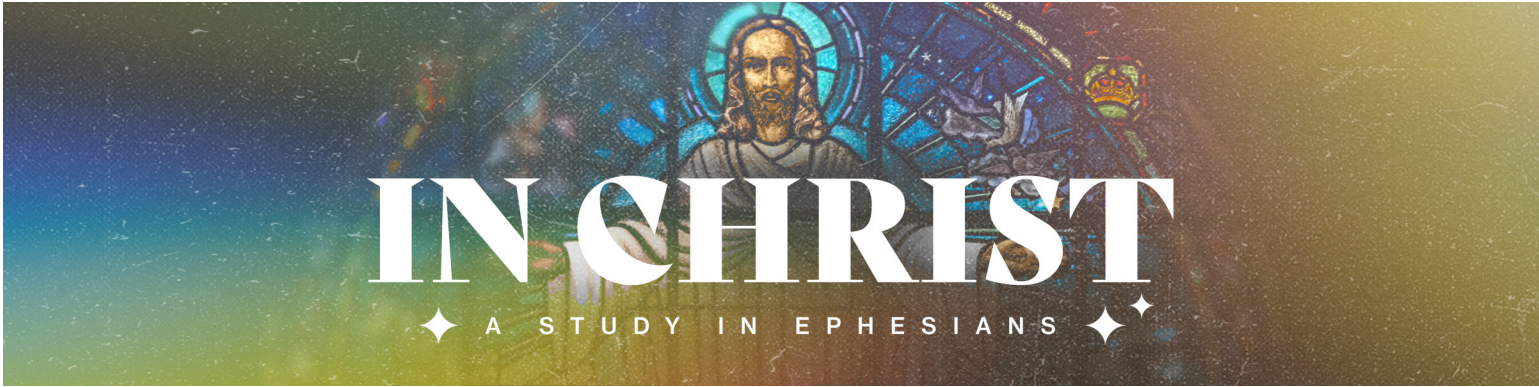
SERMON QUOTE:

“I come boldly before the throne because I remember in Christ I have access. But I come humbly before the throne because I remember who’s seated on it.”

PRAYER:

Father, thank you that I can approach your throne with confidence because of Jesus. Help me to come boldly yet humbly before you, bringing all my brokenness. Remind me that you can create something beautiful from the broken pieces of my life. In Jesus’ name, amen.

NOTES:



IN CHRIST

✦ A STUDY IN EPHESIANS ✦

DAY 2: STRENGTHENED FROM WITHIN

DEVOTIONAL:

God's work in our lives often begins in places no one else can see. Paul prays for the Ephesians to be "strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being." Before any outward change, God works inwardly. This inner strengthening isn't about mustering our own willpower. It's about receiving divine power through the Holy Spirit who dwells within believers. When we feel weak, depleted, or broken, God offers strength that doesn't depend on our circumstances or resources. The purpose of this strengthening is beautiful: "so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith." The word for "dwell" here means to be at home, to settle in permanently. Christ doesn't want to be an occasional visitor in our lives but a permanent resident who transforms us from the inside out. When we're rooted and grounded in love, we have stability even in life's storms. Like a tree with deep roots or a building with a solid foundation, God's love provides the security we need to withstand whatever challenges come our way. Today, instead of focusing only on external circumstances, invite God to strengthen your inner being through His Spirit.

BIBLE VERSE:

"That according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being." - Ephesians 3:16

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Where do you most need God's inner strengthening in your life right now? How might your perspective change if you allowed Christ to be fully at home in that area?

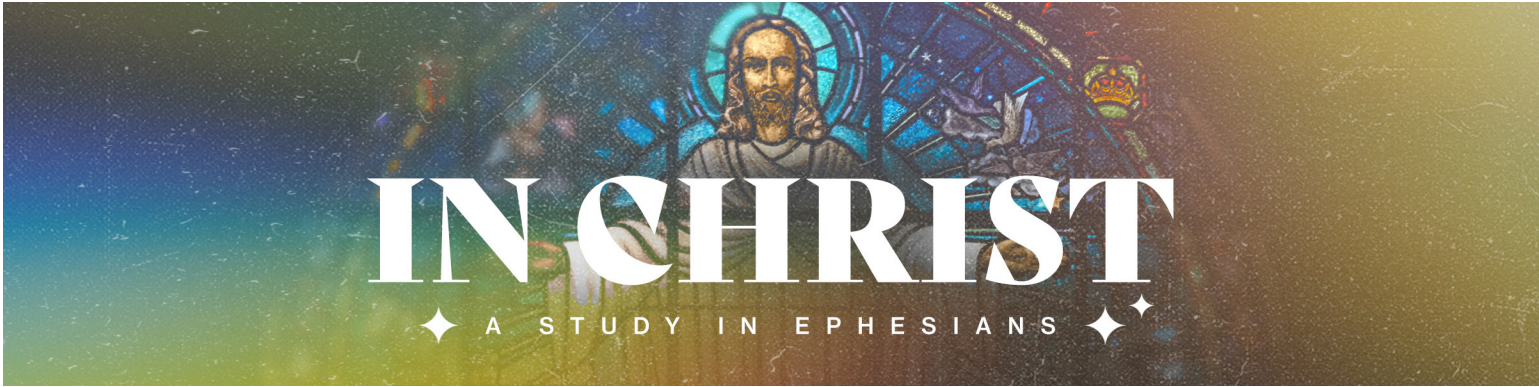
SERMON QUOTE:

"God can make a masterpiece from the brokenness of your life."

PRAYER:

Lord, strengthen me with power through your Spirit in my inner being. I invite Christ to dwell fully in my heart, making himself at home in every room of my life. Root me and ground me in your love so I can stand firm through life's challenges. In Jesus' name, amen.

NOTES:



IN CHRIST

✦ A STUDY IN EPHESIANS ✦

DAY 3: COMPREHENDING THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE

DEVOTIONAL:

How can we comprehend something that's beyond comprehension? Paul prays for believers to grasp the immeasurable dimensions of Christ's love—its width, length, height, and depth. He's asking for the impossible: to know the love that surpasses knowledge. God's love defies our human measurements. When our burdens feel deep, His love is deeper. When our journey seems long, His love is longer. When our sorrows are wide, His love is wider. And when our mountains are high, His love is higher. This isn't just theological knowledge. Paul isn't praying that we would merely believe in God's love intellectually, but that we would experience it personally. There's a vast difference between knowing about God's love and being transformed by it. The paradox is beautiful: we're invited to comprehend the incomprehensible, to know what cannot be fully known. This isn't a frustrating limitation but an exciting reality—God's love is so vast that we'll never reach its boundaries. We can spend our entire lives exploring it and still have more to discover. Today, don't just affirm God's love as a concept. Ask Him to make it real to you in ways that transform how you see yourself and others.

BIBLE VERSE:

"And to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."
- Ephesians 3:19

REFLECTION QUESTION:

In what area of your life do you most need to experience the depth, length, width, or height of God's love today? How might truly knowing His love change your perspective on your current circumstances?

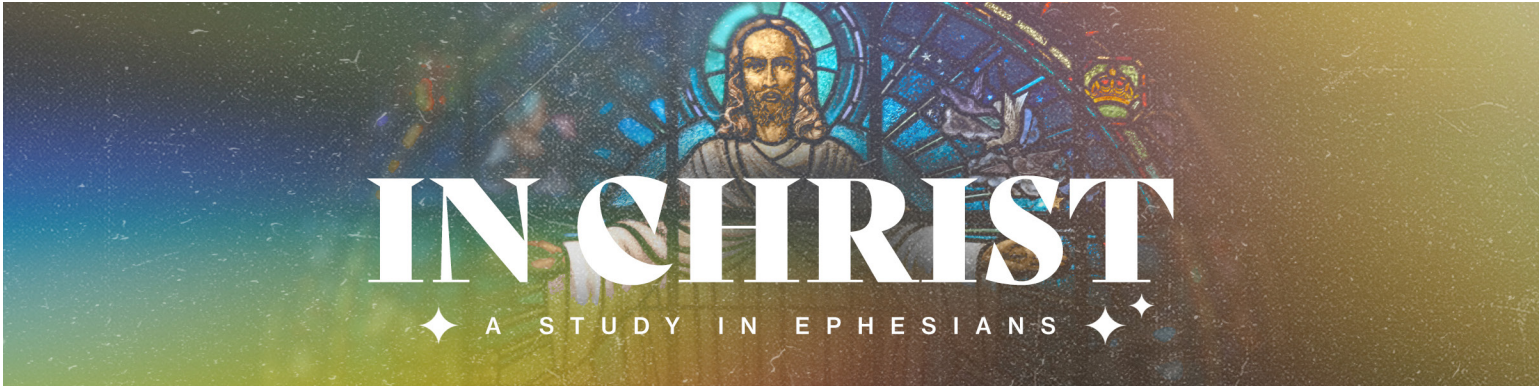
SERMON QUOTE:

"When your burdens are deep, his love is deeper. When your journey seems long, his love is longer. When your sorrows are wide, his love is wider. And when your mountains are high, his love is higher."

PRAYER:

Father, help me to comprehend the incomprehensible dimensions of your love. When I feel overwhelmed, remind me that your love is deeper, longer, wider, and higher than anything I face. Let me not just believe in your love but be transformed by experiencing it. In Jesus' name, amen.

NOTES:



IN CHRIST

✦ A STUDY IN EPHESIANS ✦

DAY 4: FILLED WITH FULLNESS

DEVOTIONAL:

Have you ever tried to fill something that's already full? It seems impossible. Yet Paul prays that believers would be "filled with all the fullness of God." He's asking for something that defies human logic—that finite beings would be filled with the infinite God. This prayer challenges our tendency to settle for less than God wants to give. We often live with spiritual emptiness when God offers fullness. We experience trickles when God offers rivers. We settle for glimpses when God offers vision. The fullness Paul describes isn't partial or temporary. It's "all the fullness of God"—complete and lacking nothing. This fullness transforms us from the inside out, affecting how we think, feel, speak, and act. When we're filled with God's fullness, we reflect His character to the world around us. Being filled with God's fullness doesn't mean we become God. Rather, it means we're so influenced by His presence that His life flows through ours. Like a glove filled with a hand, we move as He moves and serve as He directs. Today, instead of settling for spiritual mediocrity, ask God to fill you with His fullness in ways that overflow into every area of your life.

BIBLE VERSE:

"That you may be filled with all the fullness of God." - Ephesians 3:19

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Where have you been settling for too little of God in your life? What might change if you allowed yourself to be filled with more of His fullness?

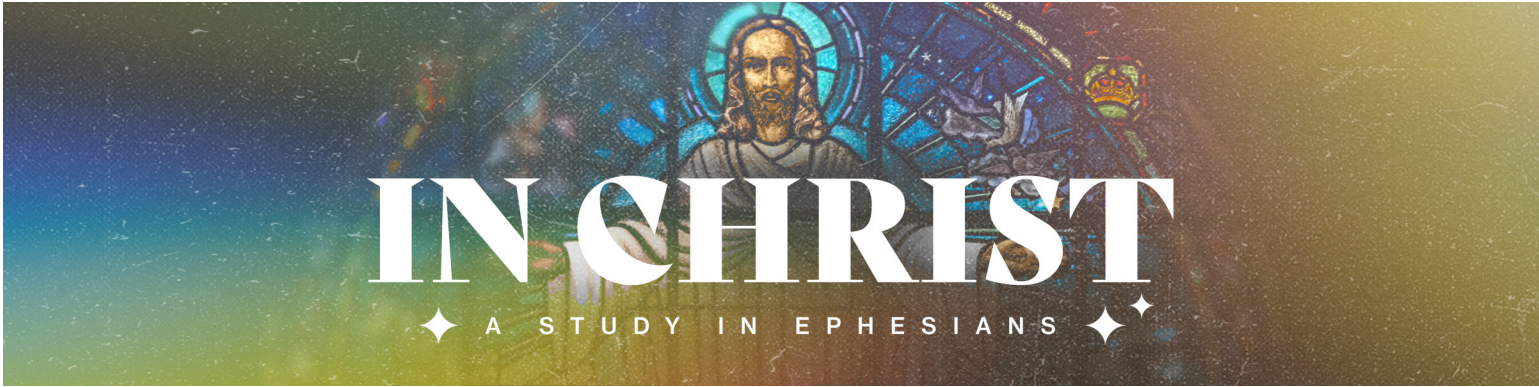
SERMON QUOTE:

"We have too long been too satisfied with too little of God. I'm praying that you'd be filled with. With the fullness, the inconceivability of being filled with what is already full."

PRAYER:

God, forgive me for settling for too little of you. I open my heart to be filled with your fullness today. Transform me from the inside out so that your life flows through mine. Help me to stop containing you and instead be contained by you. In Jesus' name, amen.

NOTES:



IN CHRIST

✦ A STUDY IN EPHESIANS ✦

DAY 5: BEYOND ALL WE ASK OR THINK

DEVOTIONAL:

Our prayers often reveal the limits of our imagination. We pray according to what we think is possible, reasonable, or likely. But Paul concludes his prayer with a stunning declaration about God's ability: He "is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think." God isn't limited by our expectations. He can do more than we ask. He can do more than we think. He can do abundantly more. He can do far more abundantly beyond all we ask or think. Each phrase expands the scope of what we should expect from God. This truth should revolutionize our prayer life. If you're praying small prayers because you think that's all God can handle, you don't know the God of Ephesians 3. If you're limiting your requests because they seem too big, you're robbing yourself of what God wants to give and robbing God of the glory He deserves. The power that enables God to do the immeasurable is already at work within us. This isn't a distant power we hope to access someday—it's present and active now in every believer through the Holy Spirit. Today, expand your prayers. Ask bigger. Think higher. Expect more. Not because God is a cosmic vending machine, but because He is glorified when we recognize and rely on His immeasurable ability

BIBLE VERSE:

"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." - Ephesians 3:20

REFLECTION QUESTION:

What impossible situation are you facing that needs God's "far more abundantly" power? How would your prayers change if you truly believed God could do immeasurably more than you're currently asking?

SERMON QUOTE:

"God's able to do far more abundantly beyond all you ask or think your problem today may be that you're asking too small of requests of God."

PRAYER:

Lord, forgive me for my small thinking and small asking. I believe you are able to do far more abundantly beyond anything I could ask or imagine. Expand my vision to see what you see and pray according to your ability, not my limitations. In Jesus' name, amen.

NOTES:
