

BEING FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD

Ephesians 3:14-21

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- As a group, come up with a definition of prayer that you could use to clearly explain the concept to someone who doesn't know Jesus.
- Using that definition, how would you describe your own prayer life: I don't pray much; I'm working on it; My picture is next to "Prayer" in the dictionary.

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Chuck unpacked what it means to pray in order to be filled with the Holy Spirit.**

Introduction:

- Pastor Chuck highlighted the process of salvation in Ephesians 1:13. Read that verse again, and use it as an outline to tell your own salvation story in your group.

Praying To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit:

1. **Deep theological teaching accompanied by accurate understanding brought Paul to his knees (Ephesians 3:14)**
 - Tell your group about the last time you were truly amazed by a truth that you read in the Bible.
 - Pastor Chuck asked, "Are the prayers you pray motivated by self or by Scripture?" How can you practice prayer in a way that has its foundation in Scripture, not in your own wants?
2. **When on his knees, Paul cried out that the inner man of the Ephesians would be strengthened by the Spirit that they may understand (Ephesians 3:16)**
 - In verse 16, the phrase "to be strengthened" is in the passive tense. In other words, we receive power from something external, it doesn't come from us. How might this truth compare to some of the philosophies our world is following right now? (If you believe it, you can do it. You are enough. You can do anything you dream of. Etc.)
3. **The inner man, strengthened by the Spirit will focus on the person of Christ (Ephesians 3:17-19a)**
 - How do you respond to the idea that Christ is dwelling in your life as if he is living in a home? Look at these corresponding verses to help you dig a little deeper: Colossians 1:27; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 4:19).
 - If you are a true Christian, what kind of "home" is your heart compared to before you knew Jesus?
4. **These deep thoughts of Christ will result in a person being filled with God (Ephesians 3:19-21)**
 - What are some practical steps you can take this week to be filled with God?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group will think true thoughts about God, leading to being filled by God.

