

MOORPARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LENT SERIES STUDY GUIDE

Sermon Discussion Questions for [Ephesians 3:14-21](#)
4th Week [2/25/18]

1. Open your group time with a brief prayer, inviting God's Spirit to lead you.
2. Start by practicing what's called "Lectio Divina" (prayerful reading). Ask everyone to close their eyes while you read Ephesians 3:14-21 out loud. Ask everyone to LISTEN for the words and phrases that speak to them.
3. Ask everyone to share what spoke to them.
4. Focus on verses 14-15. What does this say about God's "Fatherhood?" What does this say about how God "names" us? Think of how the Father "named" Jesus at his baptism. How does this relate to how God "names" us as His beloved children? Based on this truth, what is your true identity as a child of God (no matter what anyone has ever done or said to you)? Do you believe this, meaning do you actually experience this? This might be a matter for prayer later.
5. Focus on verse 16. What is our "inner being" that needs God's empowerment?
6. Focus on verse 17a. Think of how the Apostle Peter made his profession of faith about Jesus ("You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God"). How did Jesus respond ("This has been revealed to you from above")? We must remember that our personal response (choice to trust and follow God as empowered by God) is essential as an ongoing way of life!
7. Focus on verses 17b-19. What is this "grasping and knowing?" Where are you with experiential knowing of God's love? 1 Co. 13:4-8 describes our goal here. How are you doing with this in all your relationships?
8. Why does Paul end with the doxology of verses 20-21? How does God receive glory on earth? How are you being a part of this intended purpose of "The Church?" Can you say "Amen!" (your declaration of personal agreement and longing to live this way as your daily way of life)?
9. Pray for one another as needed.

For next week: Prayerfully live with Ephesians 4:1-25 this next week so you can come to our next meeting ready to share what God has said to you through God's living Word.