

PRAYING FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

A) For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might.

Ephesians 1:15-19

- A. may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him – *so that believers would have an accurate knowledge of God.*
- B. the eyes of your heart may be enlightened – *so the saints would know through the Spirit's supernatural work all that God has given us in Jesus.*
- C. know what is the hope of His calling – *God calling is that His children are ever growing into the likeness of Jesus, the hope of glory.*
- D. riches of the glory of His inheritance – *His children bring God joy when we fulfill His purpose for our life using the gifts that He has given us.*
- E. surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe – *the power that raised Jesus from the grave is the same power that transforms the life of a believer.*

PRAYER: Therefore, I also, after I heard of _____'s faith in the Lord Jesus and _____ love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for _____, making mention of _____ in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to _____ the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of _____'s understanding being enlightened; that _____ may know what is the hope of Your calling, what are the riches of the glory of Your inheritance in the saints (specifically _____), and what is the exceeding greatness of Your power toward _____ who believe.

B) For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

- F. to be strengthened – *that power would come from the Holy Spirit and would be put into the inner man to lift him out of his weakness to strength.*
- G. that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – *that Jesus would settle into your heart not as a visitor but as a permanent resident.*
- H. know the love of Christ – *that the saints may know (comprehend with full assurance) the magnitude of God's love which is to be the foundation of their life.*
- I. may be filled up to all the fullness of God – *be filled completely with God*
- J. to Him be the glory – *the answer to Jesus' prayer in John 17.*

PRAYER: For this reason I bow my knees to You, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that You would grant _____, according to the riches of Your glory, to be strengthened with might through Your Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in _____'s heart through faith; that _____, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that _____ may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to You who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to You be glory in _____'s life by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.