

Week 3. UNIMAGINABLE!

Ephesians 3:12

Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.

We come into his presence with **HUMILITY**, but with **BOLDNESS** & **CONFIDENCE**

Ephesians 1:4-5

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. ⁵God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.

Ephesians 3:14-17

¹⁴When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, ¹⁵ the creator of everything in heaven and on earth. ¹⁶ I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. ¹⁷Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

When Paul refers to God as the creator of everything, he is reminding us of the **ENORMOUS POWER** & **PRESENCE** of God!

Paul recognizes our long-term success in life comes from the **INSIDE** ... from our **CHARACTER**.

There are plenty of people who reach some place in their life through their TALENT, but eventually their lack of CHARACTER catches up to them & SABOTAGES their life.

Americans spend: \$89 BILLION on cosmetics

\$34 BILLION on perfume & cologne

Ephesians 3:16-19

¹⁶I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His spirit. ¹⁷Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. ¹⁸And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. ¹⁹May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. ²⁰Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. ²¹Glory to Him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever!

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new life in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new life from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness.

I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text "FAITH" to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from New Living Translation [NLT].

Reverend Chris Conrad, Interim Senior Pastor, February 13, 2022

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