

Belmont Chapel Home Group Notes Autumn Term 2019

A new confidence: Ephesians 3:14-21

Notes for w/b 20th October 2019

The **Study Leaders' Own Bible Study** for this session is on **Sunday 13th October at 6.45pm**. You are warmly encouraged to attend. SLOBS is a great chance to prepare together, to discuss possible approaches to the questions, anticipate any challenging aspects of the passage, and to pray for the session with others who'll also be leading their groups. It will also be very helpful to listen to Paul Cooke's sermon from **Sunday morning 13th October**.

These notes are a supplement to the study guide 'Building a Community in Christ' provided to each home group.

Way In

What have you learned from a Christian with a different background to yours?

(when we pray with others, we share together our thought and understanding of God and his relationship to us, so learning from the prayers of others is a particularly powerful thing)

What are the topics / themes which occupy our prayers in private and in groups?

(where our heart is there our treasure will be also)

For an open-ended study

Read Ephesians 3:14-21, twice. On the second reading, write down words, phrases or questions which stand out for you. Share these together and see if you can together work out a response based on the passage, and other bible knowledge available in the group.

For more structure...

Paul turns from reminding the Ephesians about his ministry (3:1-3) back to his theme of the amazing news of the gospel, every spiritual blessing in Christ (1:1-14), resurrection because of Jesus (2:10), reconciliation with God and with each other (2:11- 29).

I. Motivation (v14 & 15)

a. What was the reason for Paul's prayer?

b. How is our relationship with God characterized? What difference does that make to our prayer?

II. Priority (v16 – 19)

a. What is the main theme of Paul's prayer?

b. What difference do you think it makes that this prayer is for the community of believers?

III. Impact (v19)

a. Of the many things Paul could have prayed about, he's concerned for the Ephesians to really know God's love. Why is that so important?

b. How would a deeper rooting and understanding of the love of Christ affect our life together and our actions throughout the week?

IV. Encouragement and Expectation

a. What gives us confidence as we pray this prayer?

b. How could your prayer life be different this week as you prayer for each other? What would an answer to this prayer look like on our frontlines as we "share the story and live the life" of the Lord Jesus?

c. How can we keep praying this way, keeping the ideas and thought fresh?

This Week

Looking at the week ahead, where do you need to know the Lord's power and love so that the glory might go to God? Share that with the group / person next to you and pray.