

Life Group / Reflection Questions

There is no better life than being connected together to Jesus and His Church. This week we discovered the power that intimacy with God brings to our life individually and communally.

- *As the holidays come to a close what was one intimate experience you had with family or friends that brought you great joy?*
- *Looking back over 2015 on a scale from 1 to 10 how would you rank your intimacy with God this past year? Where would you like your intimacy with God to be?*

Read: Take a moment to pray & read Ephesians 3:13-21

Discuss/ Reflect:

- *What are your first impressions or questions from this passage of scripture?*
- *What are the context, setting, author, and intended audience of this passage of scripture?*
- *In one sentence what is the main idea of this passage of scripture?*
- *Paul mentions the inner being. What is the Inner Being? What does it look like for our inner being to be strengthened?*
- *What are the signs that we have a strong or weak Inner Being?*
- *What is the difference between knowing God and his love versus experiencing God and his love?*
- *Paul describes the love of Christ with four different words. What are those words? Have you experienced Christ's love in these ways?*

Take Away:

- *What is one thing you are taking away from this passage of scripture that you are committed to put into action?*



January 3rd, 2016
“Connected”
Wave Church SD

**Better Together
“Connected”
Ephesians 3:13-21**

**WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER WHEN WE ARE
INTIMATELY CONNECTED TO JESUS AND HIS CHURCH**

1 John 1:1-4 (ESV)

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Ephesians 3:13-15 (ESV)

¹³So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. ¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,

**1. We are better together when we have intimacy with
the Father and His Family**

Ephesians 3:16 (ESV)

¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being

2. Intimacy with God strengthens our Inner Beings

- **Inner Being** – The Heart, place of the soul, the place of spiritual experince that transcends the physical, the place where intimacy, fellowship, and communion with God takes place.
- **John 4:24, 1 Samuel 16:7**

3. A Strengthened Inner Being allows us to comprehend the love of Christ

Ephesians 3:17-19 (ESV)

¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

- **Breadth ~ Rev. 5:9-11** ... by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”
- **Length ~ Hebrews 13:5** I will never leave you nor forsake you.
- **Depth ~ Philippians 2:6-8** Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- **Height ~ 1 John 3:2** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are... beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

4. The Love of Christ transforms us into His Church

Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.