

# 5 THINGS TO PRAY

As part of this series looking at four of Paul's 'big prayers' for the church we want to be encouraging one another to be using these prayers as guides for our own.

You can do that entirely on your own by simply opening up the passage and praying from it, but if in order to help us do that we've created these sheets to split the passage into 5 things we can be praying [inspired by Good Book Company series!].

You could use this to pray for one thing each day or else you could pray for all 5 each day - or do something in between! You could do this individually, or perhaps together as a family (at a meal times, or bed time) - entirely up to you - the important thing is that we find some time to be praying these things for one another :)

## **Idea for Families**

Particularly for those with younger children, the sheet also includes a picture which may help those who are not yet able to read. Explaining the card and the picture will help them to remember what we're praying for.

To add an extra element of fun, why not cut the page into rows and fold the picture back against each prayer point. You could then ask each person in the family to pick one and pray for it.

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## PRAY FOR POWER

Ephesians 3:14-21

### POWER FOR CHRIST TO MAKE HIS HOME

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. (v16-17)*

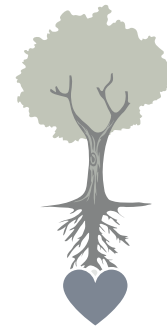
Pray that God's Spirit would strengthen us so that our lives might become more Christ Shaped in our lives and relationships together.



### TO BE ROOTED AND ESTABLISHED IN LOVE

*And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love... (v17b)*

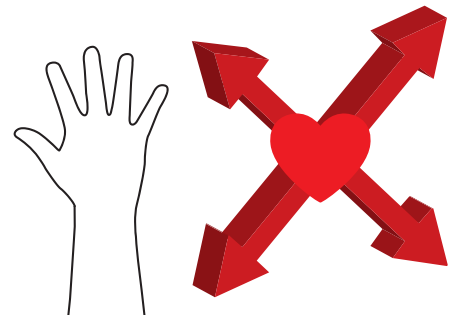
Pray that instead of a superficial love, God would help us to be anchored in it - to love even when it's hard and when we're sinned against, and to constantly be reminded of Christ's love for us.



### POWER TO GRASP THE LOVE OF CHRIST

*I pray that you...may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge. (18-19a)*

Pray that God would give us power to get hold of how limitless Christ's love for us is. To grow in grasping this together as we share insights into his love and live it out in our relationships.



### FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD

*...that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (v19b)*

As Jesus lives in us and we grasp his love, pray that we'd be filled with God's power and presence. God's fullness lives in Jesus (Col 1:19) so this is another way of praying that God would make us perfectly Christlike!



### TO AN INFINITELY POWERFUL GOD

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen*

Thank God that we pray these big prayers to a big God who has infinite power and is committed to bringing glory to himself through the church and in Christ.

