

⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now 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, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

REVIEW

***POWERFUL CHRISTIAN LIVING STARTS WITH A CONSTANT CONNECTION WITH GOD**

***Review (hina) Ephesians 3:14-21**

14For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16That (hina) he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

17That (hina) Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that (hina) ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that (hina) ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

***Note :** In order that *“that (hina) ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.”* We have to *“18may have power, together with all the saints, **to grasp** how **wide and long and high and deep** is **the love of Christ**, 19and **to know this love** that surpasses knowledge*

In short, we have to understand and experience the love of Christ.

So that, we will be *filled with all the fulness of God.*

***Illustration :**

- Child’s name : Norma Jean Mortenson
- Mother’s name : Gladys Baker who was always going to the mental institution
- Norma Jean grew up in foster home
- At 8, she was raped by a boarder in that foster home and then given a nickel and told her not to tell it to anyone.
- She told her foster mother but she was beaten saying that the boarder pays good rent
- Norma grew up to be a pretty young girl and boys whistled at her. But she was admired for her body and for her looks but never really experienced love
- She went to Hollywood. Since she was very beautiful and voluptuous, producers say that they would make her a sex symbol
- She protested but the producers told her, “It doesn’t matter.”

- She was an overnight sensation. She was admired for her looks, she had fame and fortune but no one really loved her for who she is.
- Everyone hated her because she was always late in the set. But little did they know that she was late because she was so terrified that she had to vomit. But no one knew because no one cared.
- She went through three marriages but never found anyone who really loved her for who she is.
- No one really cared who Norma Jean Mortenson is.
- On a Saturday at age 35, she committed suicide.
- The maid who first saw her body noticed the telephone hanging beside her.
- Upon further investigation, they found out that Norma Jean Mortenson called another Hollywood actor, saying, she had taken enough sleeping pills to kill herself...in short she was crying for love, if someone would care.
- The actor's answer, "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn."
- Norma had money and fame but never had love.
- Who is this Norma Jean Mortenson?
- We know her as Marilyn Monroe.

Lesson : She had beauty, fame and fortune but she never experienced a full life. Her life was empty.

***God's Promise :** *John 10:10 I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

Why? Norma Jean Mortenson never experienced love.

What is this kind of love? (last week)

Agapao - (voluntary) I love you because I want to...

Phileo - (involuntary) I love you because I have to...

I believe most if not all the strained or broken relationships we have can be repaired by agapao even mental cases

Story : Some years ago, Dr. Karl Menninger, noted doctor and psychologist, was seeking the cause of many of his patients' ills. One day he called in his clinical staff and proceeded to unfold a plan for developing, in his clinic, an atmosphere of creative love. All patients were to be given large quantities of love; no unloving attitudes were to be displayed in the presence of the patients, and all nurses and doctors were to go about their work in and out of the various rooms with a loving attitude. At the end of six months, the time spent by patients in the institution was cut in half.

**18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge*

Now if Christians will **grasp (katalambano)** - understand - get it (used for fishermen) And **know (ginosko)** - Jewish idiom for sexual encounter between husband and wife (pilot-gata) **THE LOVE OF CHRIST** then we would be having this.

*Read : **Ephesians 3: 14-21**

*14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—**that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.***

20 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, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Pray

**“ - that you may be filled to the measure...” (NIV)
“that ye might be filled...” (KJV)*

Question : What does it mean to have a full life?

Etymology : filled to the measure – filled – “pleroo” – filled to the brim

Illustrate : The tagalog term “lugi” – meaning you paid for something but wasn’t satisfied. Exact opposite of “lugi” is “sulit”. Sulit something means, you paid for something and was completely satisfied. Wala ka nang hahanapin pa.

Problem : The heart of man has a hole so large that only God can fill it.

*A full life means

- To be filled with God's overwhelming presence
- To be filled with God's overflowing providence
- To be filled with God's overcoming power

***I. A FULL LIFE MEANS TO BE FILLED WITH GOD’S OVERWHELMING PRESENCE**

that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Question : What does it mean when you are full of God?

Answer : Analogy : If a person is full of “anger”. What happens to that person?

- He is controlled by his anger
- He can't help but show his anger.

Illustration : We said earlier the word “filled to the measure” or “filled” is “pleroo” – to the brim.

If we take the anger analogy, what happens... we say in tagalog, “punong-puno na ako diyan sa tao na iyon. Isa pa.” So what happens when that person shakes you again, “the anger overflows.” It's what we call “we snapped.”

BUT if a person is full of God...when a person ininis ka... instead of “anger overflowing” God like character overflows and what is that thing that overflows? “love.”

That's the reason why, one of the commands of God is this :

**Ephesians 5:18 Do not get drunk with wine....Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*

***Explain** You are controlled by the one/thing that fills your heart and your mind.

The problem is : If that one isn't God, **it's either a cruel master or an imperfect master**, in short, it will always end in disappointment.

***That's why the greatest commandment :**

Love God with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength.

That's why again, we should only let Jesus control our lives

**17so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.*

Why?

- He is God meaning he is perfect.
- He is not crue

**Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

But let us study

Etymology : fullness “pleroma” – complete, a ship full of rowers, sailors and merchandise. In short, it is ready to sail anytime.

Application : We will not be afraid because we are well-equipped.

Example : Kapag puno ang ref mo matatakot ka bang magutom? You will not be afraid to face anything because ang buhay mo ay puno ng Dios.

***Quote :** At a time, when the missionary fund hasn't arrived yet, someone asked him, paano yan, how much money do you have left?

Hudson Taylor answered, "I have 25cents and all the blessings of God."

Which brings us to

***II. A FULL LIFE MEANS TO BE FILLED WITH GOD'S OVERFLOWING PROVIDENCE**

20Now 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,

Dictionary : providence - the foreseeing care and guidance of God or nature over the creatures of the earth.

What do we need? Provision and guidance

Question : How do we know that God will take care of us and guide us?

***1. He is able.**

20Now 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,

***a.) He is able to do anything.**

Genesis 18:14 ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD ? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son."

***b.) He is able because He is God.**

Matthew 19:26 "With man this is impossible but with God, all things are possible."

Lesson : Never ever say, "impossible"...always say "with God all things are possible."
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Illustration : Look at Moses

Moses when asked to lead God's people out of Egypt to the Promised Land. If he calculated what would be needed, it would be impossible. This is about 3 million people, in Exodus 12 :37 There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. 38 Many other people went up with them, as well as large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds.

*According to the U. S. Army's Quartermaster General, provisions needed by the Israelites led by Moses out of Egypt

- 1500 tons of food a day
- 4000 tons of firewood (freight train, a mile long) a day
- 11,000,000 gallons of water a day (around 83 million bottled water calculated at 500ml)

Wow!

***2. He is able to do more**

20Now 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,

How much more?

Etymology : hyper ek perissos - perissos – superadded – binigay na may dagdag pa

***What does it cover?**

*20Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than **all** we ask or imagine, ,*

Etymology : ask - aiteo – desire –
Imagine, think – noeo - beyond reason

Application : Our job is to pray, siya ang bahala sa sagot at kung paano siya sasagot? The point is we have to trust it's immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine.

***III. A FULL LIFE MEANS TO BE FILLED WITH GOD'S OVERCOMING POWER**

20Now 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,

***What kind of power?**

His power

What kind of power is that?

Resurrection power – the ability to raise someone from the dead

In short, the ability to do something about a hopeless situation or an impossible situation

***Illustration** : One of the best preaching I've heard regarding this was in the Philippines exposing : Luke 8

22One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. 23As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. 24The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 25"Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

Two lessons :

1. May mangyayari ba sa inyo kung kasama Ninyo ako?

2. Ano ngayon kung lumubog kayo at kasama Ninyo naman ako, baka magulat kayo at nakakahinga kayo sa ilalim ng tubig?

Etymology : power – dunamis – means effective power

Illustration : paputok ka ng trianggulo pero wala naman...

But if God is the one who moves, definitely it will have an impact in our lives.

***The availability of this power**

to his power that is at work within us.

a.) We have easy access to this power.

Why? It's within us.

Illustration : Years ago, Russell Conwell told of an ancient Persian, Ali Hafed, who "owned a very large farm that had orchards, grain fields, and gardens... and was a wealthy contented man." One day a wise man from the East told the farmer all about diamonds and how wealthy he would be if he owned a diamond mine. Ali Hafed went to bed that night a poor man--poor because he was discontented. Craving a mine of diamonds, he sold his farm to search for the rare stones. He traveled the world over, finally becoming so poor, broken, and defeated that he committed suicide. One day the man who purchased Ali Hafed's farm led his camel into the garden to drink. As his camel put its nose into the brook, the man saw a flash of light from the sands of the stream. He pulled out a stone that reflected all the hues of the rainbow. The man had discovered the diamond mine of Golconda, the most magnificent mine in all history. Had Ali Hafed remained at home and dug in his own garden, then instead of death in a strange land, he would have had acres of diamonds.

REVIEW

***Ephesians 3: 14-21**

14For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15from whom his whole family[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20Now 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, 21to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Explain : again:

***Why does God want us to live powerful Christian lives???**

21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

In short, FOR HIS GLORY!!!

***What is powerful Christian living? (review)**

- **Inner strength from the Holy Spirit**
(which means strength to resist temptation, strength needed in trials and sufferings)
- **Infinite love from Christ**
(which means having a lifestyle of love because we have understood and experienced it)
- **Immeasurable fullness of God**
(which means we know that all our needs will be taken care of and we will always be guided when we need it.)

If we live this kind of life, GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED

** 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

Explain :

1. This inner strength, this infinite love from Christ, this immeasurable fullness of God is available to the church... to us.
- 2.. It is only possible if we put our faith and trust to Christ Jesus....
3. And this is available yesterday (all generations) today, forever and ever.
Amen.

Story : The Greeks had a race in their Olympic games that was unique. The winner was not the runner who finished first. It was the runner who finished with his torch still lit. I want to run all the way with the flame of my torch still lit for Him.

