

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

FUTURE *in* FOCUS

Future in Focus | Week 3 | September 21, 2025

Text: Ephesians 3:14–21

Discuss:

If you are meeting as a group to discuss the sermon, start with this:

- Share a time when you experienced an unexpected blessing—a moment when God surprised you by doing more than you thought possible.
- Share one or two “nuggets” that stood out from the sermon.

Come and See:

Paul prays with a posture of kneeling—an unusual but deeply humble stance—asking God to strengthen believers with His Spirit so Christ might dwell in their hearts. His prayer paints a vision of being rooted in love, experiencing Christ’s presence as a permanent resident, and knowing the vast dimensions of His love.

1. Paul uses the word “katoikeo” for Christ “dwelling” in our hearts (v. 17), meaning a permanent residence rather than a temporary guest. What difference does this make in how we understand our relationship with Jesus?

2. Paul speaks of being “rooted and established in love” (v. 17). How is this foundation similar to the importance of a strong foundation in building a house? (See also Matthew 7:24–27.)

3. Paul wants us to grasp “how wide and long and high and deep” is Christ’s love. Early church fathers saw this as describing the cross: wide arms stretched out, long enough to reach all people, high enough to lift us to heaven, and deep enough to rescue us from sin and death. Which dimension is particularly meaningful to you? How might you pray for God to expand your understanding of this dimension in your own life?

4. In verses 18–19 Paul says Christ’s love is beyond knowledge. Compare this with Romans 5:8, 8:37–39, Isaiah 54:10, Psalms 103:11–14. How do these passages help us understand the immeasurable love of God?

5. Paul coins a word—“hyperekperissou”—to express that God’s power surpasses imagination. This echoes Old Testament themes of God doing the impossible (Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17) and is fulfilled in Christ through the Spirit. What difference does it make that God’s power is not only “out there” but “at work within us”?

Follow Me:

- Where do you see Jesus acting like a “guest” in your life rather than a permanent resident with the master key?
- What is a specific way that allowing Him into every “room” of your life (relationships, thought life, hidden struggles) change you?
- How can you practically grow in grasping the “width, length, height, and depth” of Christ’s love this week?

Go and Be:

- What is one area of your life where you want to trust God to do immeasurably more than you've asked or imagined?
- Identify one specific way you can live rooted in God's love this week—through forgiveness, generosity, encouragement, or prayer.
- Pray together that Christ would dwell in your hearts and empower you to live with His fullness.
- If God can do "super abundantly beyond our excessive prayer and imaginations" (Jason's translation of "hyperekperissou"), what can you begin to pray for God to do in and through St. Andrew's? Who do you want to see here? What do you want to see happen here? Pray boldly—as God can do more than that! Invite boldly—you never know when a person is ready to say yes to your invitation!