



SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

OPENING PRAYER

PSALM 63:1-8

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;

I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,

in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

² I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

³ Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

⁴ I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵ I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my

mouth will praise you.

⁶ On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night.

⁷ Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.

OPEN THE EYES OF OUR HEARTS

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, **may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.** ¹⁸ I pray that **the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you**, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and **his incomparably great power for us who believe.** That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ask that God would help us to know Him better through the wisdom and revelation of the Holy Spirit.

Ask that the eyes of our hearts would be opened more and more to the HOPE to which Jesus is calling us.

Ask that we would trust in and rely on God's incomparably great power for His children.

BRINGING PEACE, ENDING HOSTILITY

EPHESIANS 2:14-18

For Jesus himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Let's celebrate with gratitude that through Jesus everyone can be forgiven and enjoy life with God.

Ask God to help us join with Jesus as peacemakers, barrier-breakers and hostility-enders, upholding the unity of the one new humanity Jesus died to create.

EMPOWERED BY CHRIST AND HIS LOVE

EPHESIANS 3:14-19

For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family 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 Lord's holy people, 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.

Ask God to strengthen us with power through His Spirit so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith.

Ask God for the power to grasp the incredible love of Christ—that we may experience this love so that we can be filled as much as God can possibly fill us.

CLOSING PRAYER

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

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.