

# Finding Inner Strength

During the Discouraging Times

## Ephesians 3:14-21

Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. January 28, 2018. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

### 1. THE CHURCH WAS \_\_\_\_\_

#### Because of Opposition

Acts 19:28 (ESV)- When they [people of Ephesus] heard this they were enraged and were crying out “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

#### Because of Paul’s Suffering

Acts 20:37-38 (ESV)- And there was much weeping on the part of all...being sorrowful...that they would not see his face again.

Ephesians 3:13 (ESV)- So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

*“My soul is cast down within me.”  
-David*

### 2. PAUL’S SOLUTION WAS \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 3:14-15 (ESV)-For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

Luke 18:1 (ESV)- And he [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

I Peter 5:7 (ESV)- casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

*“We cannot all argue, but we can all pray; we cannot all be leaders, but we can all be pleaders; we cannot all be mighty in rhetoric, but can all be prevalent in prayer. I would sooner see you eloquent with God than with men.”*

*-Charles Hadden Spurgeon*

### 3. PAUL’S PRAYER FOR \_\_\_\_\_

#### Inner Strength That Comes From God (\_\_\_\_\_)

Ephesians 3:16 (ESV)-that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love

#### Inner Strength That Allows Us To Experience Love (\_\_\_\_\_)

Ephesians 3:17b-19a (ESV)- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,

#### Inner Strength That Makes Us More Like Jesus (\_\_\_\_\_)

Ephesians 3:19b (ESV)-that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

### 4. PAUL’S \_\_\_\_\_

#### God’s Plans Are Bigger

Ephesians 3:20a (ESV)- Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think

#### God’s Power is Working

Ephesians 3:20b (ESV)- according to the power at work within us

#### God’s Glory is in Us

Ephesians 3:21 (ESV)- to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**Here Is The Point:** When we or others discouraged we must pray for inner strength!

#### For Further Study

8:38-39, 2 Corinthians 13:11-14, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:4, 2 Thessalonians 3:5, Titus 3:4-8, I John 3:1, I John 4:9, Jude 21

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