

# WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

## LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

### *The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation” Pt. 9*

Thursday, December 8, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

*Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching*

VIP Silver Saints - Conference Call # (717) 908-1834 – Dial \*6 to Mute

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#### OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

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#### WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

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If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

#### PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

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#### FACILITATION OF LESSON

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*Sermon Title: “The Ephesians Prayer of Revelation,” Pt.9*

#### POINT I

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We are continuing our study of the Ephesians Prayer of Revelation. The third thing Paul prayed in revelations chapter three is:

#### **Translator’s New Testament: Ephesians 1:19**

...the limitless scope of his power at work in us once we believe in him...

In the beginning, God spoke all material substance into being. Electrons began whirling around the nuclei of atoms and the physical creation burst into sight. We know that all matter is made of minute cells of energy called atoms. The tremendous power that holds the protons and neutrons in the center of an atom together has only been understood and demonstrated in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Paul prayed that we would get a revelation of the power released in the resurrection of Christ. The resurrection of Christ was evidently the greatest display of omnipotence ever set forth, surpassing even that of creation.

#### **QUESTION**

1. How does the material substance of the creation relate to power released in the resurrection?

*When God raised up the body of Jesus, the material substance of His body change so dramatically that from that time on, Jesus could walk through solid walls.*

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Somehow the very structure of the atoms of his body were altered. This took tremendous power – even more power than used to create matter in the beginning.

This is what Paul had in mind in his prayer for the church – not just the power that was loosed in his body in his triumph over physical death, but the power that was unleashed spiritually in his triumph over hell and all its forces. That is the power that is at work in us now! The power that raised Christ from the dead made him supremely triumphant over hell and all its hosts.

#### QUESTION

1. What happened to Jesus’ body at the resurrection? What did Paul want us to get a revelation of?

#### POINT II

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In **Ephesians 1:18**, the Apostle Paul makes this statement, <sup>18</sup>*The eyes of your understanding being Christ resurrection was more than a triumph over rigor mortis; it was a triumph over all the forces that held us in bondage.*

In **Hebrews 2:14** it says:

*14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that **through death** he might **destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;***

*15 And **deliver them** who through **fear of death** were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

*We are no longer held under the bondage of death.*

#### QUESTION

1. What was Christ resurrection to us?

Paul strained his vocabulary in: **Ephesians 1:19** in an attempt to express what we saw of the might of Christ’s resurrection.

In **Ephesians 1:19** it states:

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

There are four different words that Paul used for power in an attempt to describe what great power was released in the resurrection of Christ:

*1. Dunimis = dynamite = ability*

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2. *Energia* = energy = operative power in exercise
3. *Kratos* = manifested strength
4. *Ischuos* = an endowment of strength.

All four of these words generally mean power. Paul said this: power, power, power, power that God used to raise Jesus from the dead is not just great but exceedingly great.

#### QUESTION

1. How did Paul strain his vocabulary in Ephesians chapter 1:19 and why?

**Exceeding** is the Greek word **hyperballo**, which literally means a throwing beyond.

It describes an archer who overshoots his goal. He put so much energy into it that when he pulls back on his bow and releases his arrow, he overshoots, overreaches, surpasses and eclipse is goal.

**Greatness** is the Greek word **Megethos**, a word from of mega, meaning great. It' would be better translated vast.

This means that the power Paul is describing is boundless, immense, limitless, measureless and vast. You can say that it is so mighty that it is simply beyond human ability to measure.

#### QUESTION

1. What does the words exceedingly and greatness describe and how does it relate to the resurrection?

#### POINT III

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Then he uses the four Greek words for power in **Ephesians 1:19:**

And what is the exceeding greatness of his **power** [DUNAMIS] to us-ward who believe, according to the **working** [ENERGIA] of his **mighty** [ISCHUOS] power [KRATOS],

When he uses these words to describe the power of God that works in us. He was piling an image on top of image to show how overshooting and irresistible is the power that works in us who believe.

This power is so mighty it can neither be measured nor resisted. There is simply no human power in existence to compare to it! Paul said, this power is great beyond measure, surpassing power, more than enough power.

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#### QUESTIONS

1. Why did Paul use these four words to describe power?

Then Paul went on to say in **Ephesians 1:20** “... **mighty power**, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.”

Paul was making it emphatically clear that no power has ever equaled or rivaled the power that was required for Christ’s resurrection. It was the greatest manifestation of power that the universe has ever witnessed. It literally seized Jesus from death’s grip, raised him back into his body, and then continued to lift him through demonic principalities, powers, might, and dominion until he was seated at his throne at the right hand of the father.

No power in hell or on the earth, and no principality or power in the heavens, was able to resist this demonstration of divine energy. Think about this; God doesn’t just put a small dose of power inside us who believe. He has placed the power of His Son’s resurrection in us! It’s a power that eclipse any other power. It is full, boundless, measureless energy – so mighty that no evil power can resist it. And to think God has made it available to those who believe!

#### QUESTIONS

1. What was Paul emphatically clear about in the resurrection? When reading about this power what should we think about? Make it personal!

#### POINT IV

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##### **The good news bible: Ephesians 1:19,20**

And how very great is his power at work in us who believe. This power is the same as the mighty strength which he used when he raised christ from death and seated him at his right hand.

##### **Translator’s New Testament:**

... and the limitless scope of his power at work in us once we believe in him. This is the same stupendous power which he exerted when he raised christ from death and enthroned him at his right hand in the supernatural world.

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#### **Laubach Translation:**

I pray that you may realize that his power in us who believe, is great beyond all measure. It is the same mighty power that worked in christ. By that power god raised him from the dead and had him sit at his right hand in heaven.

#### **The Weymouth Translation:**

... and what the transcendent greatness of his power in us believers as seen in the working of his infinite might when he displayed it in christ by raising him from the dead and seating him at his own right hand in the heavenly realms.

#### **Jordan Translation:**

May you experience the incredible outburst of his power in us who rely on his might and is abundant energy. This same energy working in christ raised him from the dead and gave him spiritual victory and authority over every ruler.

#### **Carpenter Translation:**

Calculate if you can, the gigantic power behind all this.

#### **Cornish Translation:**

...the extraordinary power which reacts from him upon all who believe..., enormous, overmastering supremacy...

#### **Centenary Translation:**

... the surpassing greatness of his might in us who believe, as seen in the energy of that relentless might...

#### **Johnson Translation:**

...incredible immense strength...

#### **Klingensmith Translation:**

...erupting greatness...

#### **New International Version:**

...incomparably great...

#### **Noli Translation:**

Immeasurable...

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#### **And the Basic English Translation:**

...unlimited...

Paul saw something awesome.

#### **QUESTION**

1. When looking at the different translations what jumps out to you? Choose some and describe!

In the revelation that Jesus Christ gave him of his redemptive work the three days and nights from his death to his resurrection and his ascension to glory - he saw the mighty triumph of Christ. Paul longed for all believers to see this revelation in their own hearts as well.

#### **QUESTION**

1. What did Paul long for us to see in this revelation?

#### **CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)**

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#### **PRAISE REPORTS - \*2-MINUTES PER PERSON**

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#### **PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)**

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##### **Prayer focus:**

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
  - a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian, Carmelo and the ministerial staff.
  - b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

**Have you reached out to your circle today?**

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

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1. Single with Purpose will be going out for a pre-Christmas dinner/coupled with gift exchange selection on **Friday, December 9th**. Come out and choose the person you will be exchanging gift with on December 25th, 2022. See you then!
2. Join the SWAT Team for their next outing Saturday, **December 10th and 24th**. Prayer begins promptly at 11:00 am. For more information contact Minister Julie Francis.
3. VIP Silver Saints take Christmas to Queen Louise Home, **Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.** For more information See Minister Irene Williams.
4. **VIP Silver Saints** participating in the Christmas gift exchange, please see Minister Williams after church to get the name of your special person.
5. Join us for Baby Dedication, **Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 10:00 am**. To register call the church office at (340) 774-8617 or see Minister Abbott immediately following service.
6. Join us for a Night of Prayer, **Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Let pray in the new year together.
7. Join us for **New Year’s Day Service, Sunday, January 1, 2023 at 10:00 am**. Join us as we hear the word of the Lord for 2023 from our Bishop.
8. Mark your Calendars for **30 Days of Prayer from Monday, January 2nd to Tuesday, January 31st**.
  - a. Visit **pray30.org** or text **PRAY** to **248-266-9990** to receive the daily devotionals right to your inbox.
  - b. Watch or Read the Daily Devotionals and Pray at Least 30 Minutes Daily.

Our youth are invited to follow **youthpray30** on **Instagram** and **subscribe** to the channel on **YouTube**

c. In addition, the youth videos will be posted on the **pray30.org/ignite** website page

**Children’s Ministry** will have special lessons for the month and a ZOOM meet up every Saturday from 12:00 Noon – 12:30 Noon EST.

9. Join us for Early Morning Prayer, **Monday- Friday from 6:00 am - 7:00 am** and Saturday’s at 10:00 am. Join us on the Miracle Line on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s at 11:00 am by conference call,

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Facebook, YouTube and the Word of Faith Website. The call-in number for the Early Morning Prayer and the Miracle Line is (717) 908-1834, access code 755875#.

10. Then Join us for Noon Day Prayer, with Evangelist Sharon Walker. Join us for 1-hour to pray. This is an In-person Prayer Service at Word of Faith.
11. Monetary donations are being accepted to be a blessing to those truly in need. When making your donation to please write "*Gift for WOFICC CARES.*" **WOFICC CARES** about our church family! **WOFICC CARES** about our community! **WOFICC CARES** about the Islands of the Caribbean!

### **OFFERING**

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- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

### **CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL**

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