

“GOD IS LOVE” DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER

Our prayer this week focuses on God Who is “*Love*”. He is strong, has intense affection, benevolence, kindness and tenderness for us because it is His nature, it is Who He is. He is perfect *Love*.

It comes from our Prayer Verse: Ephesians 3:16-19 "I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in *love*, 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, and to know this *love* that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

Our encouragement for each of us is that it doesn't matter where we come from, or what our past or present circumstances were or are, or what our life's journey have led us through, either by our choices or the choices of others, God loves us and wants us to know *His love*...to know *Him*. *He is Love*...perfect, having true kindness, tenderness, goodness and affection towards us that is pure and holy. His love for us is so perfect that He gave us the gift of His Son for our sins so we wouldn't have to pay for them ourselves. And then His love went beyond that and He gave us *His Own* Holy Spirit to live in our lives to help guide us along life's journey. This amazing gift of *His Own* Holy Spirit comes with all His glorious riches which include *His strength* and *His power*! Think about it, God strengthens us with *His Power*, through *His Spirit*, and all of this He does so that Christ will dwell in our hearts through faith. And why is this important? Because in this faith, we become rooted in Who God is and what we mean to Him. We understand that we are established in His *Love* through Jesus Christ and it can *never* be taken away from us for we become His children. And because of that we have power with all God's children to grasp how wide and long and deep and high is Christ's *love* for us. This kind of *love* goes beyond human reasoning and thinking, but when we get it, we are truly filled with all the fullness of God that He has for us. What is this fullness of God? It is *His Spirit*, *His Love*, *His Peace*, *His Joy*, *His Hope*, *His Strength*, and most important, *His Salvation*. What a beautiful reminder that *all of us* can have this because He *loves* us so! Let's us pray that we will recognize this and turn to the *God of Love* and accept all that He has to offer us so freely. Let us pray:

"Dear Heavenly Father, we humbly bow before Your throne in our hearts and praise You for being “*Love*”. We pray that out of Your glorious riches, You may strengthen me and...

(names of those you are praying for)

with power through Your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that we, being rooted and established in *love*, may have power, together with all of Your holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the *love* of Christ, and to know this *love* that surpasses knowledge - that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of You. Lord, we believe You desire to do this for us for it is in Your Word. May we recognize our need for You and humble our hearts before your mighty throne. May our hope be in You all day long. Thank-you for loving us with an everlasting love and may it all be for the glory of Your name. In Your loving Son's name, Jesus, we pray, Amen.”