

ENCOUNTERING GOD

Ephesians 3:14-21

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE NECESSITY OF AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD
2. THE ANATOMY OF AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD
3. HOW WE CAN RECEIVE AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3 is for Christians. This means it is possible to somewhat understand God's love without truly being changed by the reality of it. We often don't realize what we already have in Jesus. What do we have in Jesus? Spend some time talking about what is true about anyone who puts their faith in Jesus.
3. Describe a time when you encountered God. How do you personally handle the tension between depending fully on God for these encounters while also actively praying and studying God's Word?
4. An encounter with God takes place in our "inner being" which means it will impact and change every area of our life. It will impact our intellect, emotions and will. Is there one of these areas you tend to focus on over the others? Why do you think it's important that we know that an encounter with God does not limit its transforming power to only one of these areas?
5. After looking at how Paul prays for the Ephesian church, Pastor Ryan made the statement that "every problem you and I will come up against will be solved by you coming to understand God's love more deeply." Spend some time discussing this idea as a group. Do you agree with this idea? Why or why not? Where have you seen evidence of this in your life or the lives of others?
6. Have you ever gone through a long dry period where you were desperate to encounter God but it just wasn't happening for you? What do you do in those times?
7. **PRAY:** In Ephesians 3, Paul is on his knees before God praying that believers would come to know God's unknowable love in a truly life-changing way. Spend time as a group praying that God would help us grow in our knowledge of His love and that we would be transformed.

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Every other attribute of God might amaze you or terrify you but only the love of God has the power to transform you.