Sermon Notes – June 1, 2025 **Ephesians – Becoming Who You Are** Week 4: How Big Is Your God? Pastor Curtis Gudrie

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 3:14-21 NIV

"¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family ^[a] 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. ²⁰ 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"

THE QUESTION: How Big Is Your God?

THE PROBLEM: Too often we view our problems as too big, and our God as too small

Unpacking Paul's Powerful Prayer:

1) HE IS ABLE...

- "To Him Who": We need to focus on God instead of our circumstances or impossibilities
- God is <u>Always</u> Able: His ability and capacity has not, and will not, change!
- He is Able: He is literally El Shaddai [God Almighty] and Omnipotent [All Powerful]

2) HE IS ABLE TO DO...

- God is not only able, but He is alive, active, and working in us, around us, and through us.
- **God is Able To:** Create, make a way, provide for and exceed needs, restore, reconcile, heal, direct, sustain, save, keep, ...
- Whatever situation or circumstance you are up against... He is big enough, & able to do it!
- "Anything God has ever done, He can do now. Anything God has ever done anywhere, He can do here. Anything God has ever done for anyone, He can do for you!" A.W. Tozer
- What would believing this to be true, change in your life?

3) HE IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN...

- Paul desired that The Church would grasp his confidence in how "Big" God truly is, and let that truth transform how we pray, think, dream, and act!
- Bad Grammar; Great Theology: "Exceedingly Abundantly" Paul coined this rare double compound word with three parts- Huper (above/beyond), + ek (out of) + perissou (abundant). The word means INFINITELY above or beyond all human measurement or understanding!

- His immeasurable power at work within us gives us confidence, boldness, and it also enables us to overcome sin, speak with authority about Jesus, and persevere through difficult times.
- There is no limit to what God can do! It is impossible to exaggerate how big, good, powerful, and able He is.
- Paul's prayer speaks to the potential of God in every believer's life!
- "We serve a God who does immeasurably more—but we often settle for less because we've stopped expecting Him to move." Christine Caine
- "The greatest power in the universe is available to us in prayer. God is able to do far more than we ever dare to ask or even imagine." Warren Wiersbe
- Big and small: Nothing is too big for our God, but nothing is too small for Him either. He is able to do far more than we can imagine, but He still cares about the details you and I think are insignificant (M. Batterson).
- Whatever impossibility that you are staring in the eyes today, why not introduce it to The One Who Is More Than Able!
- Imagine what God can do in and through us if we would simply realize how big our God truly is!!!!