

The God of so much more W/C 26th Jan 2025

A new year often brings a sense of anticipation and expectation. Sometimes we are glad to leave the previous year behind and look forward in hope to a better new year. It's always good to remind ourselves of God's unchanging nature and His faithfulness towards us.

As we move into the new year, I sense that God is going to do something new amongst us and He wants us to raise our sense of anticipation and expectation that He is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.

A question to challenge our thoughts, are we hungry for more of God?

Welcome: What helps you most to engage with God?

Worship: Spend some time in worship. Plan an act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

Word: Looking at God's word together:

Read Ephesians 3:14-21 (NIV)

1. The word power is associated with God's enabling. It occurs 3 times in the passage. What ways does God enable us according to this passage?
2. Paul uses 4 different adjectives to describe Christ's love (v18). What do we understand about ...
 - The 'width' of Christ's love?
 - The 'length' of Christ's love?
 - The 'height' of Christ's love?
 - The 'depth' of Christ's love?
3. What does it mean to know that Christ's love 'surpasses knowledge' (v19)?
 - What does this mean to us personally, not just in our heads but in our hearts?
4. What does it look like to be filled 'to the measure of all the fulness of God.'?

5. Paul opens up the possibility that there is so much to knowing God than we have experienced (v20).
 - In what ways have we limited our expectations of what God can and cannot do in and through us?
 - How can we change this expectation?
6. How confident are we that God is able to do 'immeasurably' more in our lives?

Witness: What would our witness to others look like if we had a greater confidence in what God can do through us by His Holy Spirit?

Prayer:

- Is there anything in your own life for which you need prayer?
- Pray that you will have a greater confidence in exercising the gifts that God has given you.
- Pray with expectancy that God will do so much more in our own lives and through his church this coming year.
- Pray for the homes in the immediate vicinity of our own home.
- Pray for those on the mission field.