

## ***Fantastic Five***

God's plan for Ephesus and beyond  
Ephesians 3:14-21

### **Introduction**

Ephesus was one of the most important cities to the Roman Empire. It was a political, commercial and religious center as well as home to the great temple of goddess Diana. The temple was made completely of marble and took 220 years to build and was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. The city gladiator stadium could seat 25,000 spectators. How could this new church congregation, with very few resources, possibly make inroads into this powerful city? How could they influence people to consider Christianity as the only answer to the human condition? The Apostle Paul gives us the answers in these 8 verses and these 5 truths are still relevant for us to examine.

<sup>14</sup>When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, <sup>15</sup>the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>16</sup>I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. <sup>17</sup>And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. <sup>18</sup>And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. <sup>19</sup>May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

<sup>20</sup>Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. <sup>21</sup>May he be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen (NLT)

Paul's prayer for the church at Ephesus is my prayer for us today:  
—that we would see—

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vs. 14,15)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vs. 16)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vs. 17)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vs. 18,19)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vs. 20,21)