

Church in Ephesus. **Brief background of the church in Ephesus (See Acts 19).**

- Ephesus is a huge city, at the epicentre of worship for Greek and Roman gods.
- Paul spent 2 years in Ephesus (in his 3rd journey) as a missionary.
- In the first 3 months, Paul spoke in the synagogue. Then spent the remaining time sharing from the lecture hall of Tyrannus.

Structure of Ephesians. **The book of Ephesians can be segmented into two broad themes. What are the two themes?**

Context Ephesians 1:3-14. **How many times did the phrase 'in/through Christ' or 'in/through him' appear?**

According to Paul, what is God's purpose/will for us?

BIG IDEA:

Read Ephesians 3:14-19. **Summarise Paul's prayer for the believers in Ephesus.**

Read Ephesians 3:16-17a again. **We understand Christian doctrine as receiving the Holy Spirit after coming to faith and obtaining salvation through Jesus Christ. Is there a contradiction to what Paul is describing here?**

Read Ephesians 3:17b-18 again. **What is 'rooted and grounded' love?**

Read Ephesians 3:19 again. **There is a seeming paradox here 'to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge'. How do we resolve this paradox? What do we need to achieve such a knowledge?**

What is the difference between the use of the word 'power' in verse 16 and verse 18?

This is why Paul is praying! He knows that the knowledge and experience of God's love for us is the only way we will ever reach the goal of being filled up with all the fullness of God.

Read Ephesians 3:20. **There are 2 'powers' at play here again. Can you identify them?**

Read Ephesians 3:20-21. **Paul's doxology recognises the glory of God. He goes on to mention that the glory of God should be seen in 2 other entities. Who or what are they?**