



...that He would grant you,
according to the riches of His glory,
to be strengthened with might
through His Spirit in the inner man,

...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;
that you,
being rooted and grounded in love,
may be able to comprehend with all the saints
what is the width
and length
and depth
and height—

to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge;
that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Eph. 3:16-19

Last night during a worship time at the House of Prayer in Fort Wayne, as we gave ourselves to Him, the Lord began to speak to me about His heart's cry for us to be one in Him, to be completely united to Him and genuinely united one to another in love. I was drawn to the above Scripture.

This is one of some twenty five prayers in the New Testament, each one offering us incredible insight into the very heart of God. This is God's burning desire for His church. This is God's cry for His Bride. Somehow last night, this Scripture burst into flame in my heart as I read it and then prayed it. While this was taking place somewhere in my spirit, one of the prayer leaders encouraged us to embrace the Lord's desire to be with us, to fellowship with us, and to not believe the lies that the world, the flesh and the devil tell us; namely, that our own failings and shortcomings cause God to keep us at arm's length. We were encouraged to take God at His own Word, to believe everything He says.

Then as I again mulled over the Ephesians passage, I began to see a picture of a fireplace. It had a large fire blazing in it. The wood in it was kept ablaze by the gas jets over which it lay. I just kind of "left" the prayer meeting and began to listen and look at what I was seeing with my spirit eyes.

I noticed embers, some white hot, others not lit. The unlit ones were away from the jets, separated from the rest of the material that was burning. The fire was burning vigorously, fueled by the gas constantly being pumped into it. Thoughts began to come to me.

The only way that you and I will ever be who and how the Lord desires us to be is to come to this One, this Living Inferno, this Consuming Fire, this Savior King. We are called to be ablaze with Jesus in a cold and dark world. If we liken the Church, the Bride of Christ to the fireplace I saw, we are called to be in that fireplace. More, we are called to place ourselves in the direct path of the flames, where the very Breath of God, the Holy Spirit, can breathe on us, setting us on fire with the breath of His mouth.

I began to understand that the embers which were not even burning are those who are without passion for Him, those who have either never had hope or have despaired of a fresh touch from Him. My thoughts moved to Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts
by the Holy Spirit
who was given to us. Romans 5:5

Yes, Lord, You not only ARE love, but **You have poured out** INTO MY HEART Your love by the power of Your Holy Spirit! You have not just leased Your love to me, but actually given Your love to me. And who or what is Your love? It is Jesus.....

It is Your desire (Eph 3:17b) that I develop a big tap root of belief, a confident “Yes!” a certainty deep inside me, and become utterly grounded in love. To be so established in love is to be in unity with You in Your Body, the Church, Your Bride; to be fused together with You and my brothers and sisters in You.

It is this active experienced union with You and Your Body that enables me, it actually empowers me to be able to comprehend **with ALL the saints** - - - - - YOU!

How wide Your love is!
How long Your love is!
How deep Your love is!
How high Your love is!

Your ultimate desire (verse 19) is for me to actually experience Your Love, beloved Christ, this love that is so far beyond book learning that no words can describe it! And beyond that, it is Your longing desire that I be FILLED with nothing less than ALL THE FULLNESS OF YOU!

By now the picture of the fire in the gas fireplace had become the interpretation of what the Lord was trying to show me in Eph. 3.

His desire is to blow His breath on us (dead wood without Him). He does this by the very breath of His mouth. As He breathed into the mouth of our flesh father Adam and he became a living being, so He wants to breathe the fire of His Holy Spirit into us and set us afire with His very own love for Him and for others.

For this to happen, we have to place ourselves one at a time **in** the fireplace, or if you will, **in** the furnace of prayer, and this, in His Body (the fellowship of believers).

We must have open spiritual receptors to receive His fire. We need to have hearts empty of other loves, our spiritual mouths open, hungry for Him, full of desire and uninhibited confidence in His Word.

As we place ourselves atop this altar of surrender, this place of immolation, He will breathe His breath into us. The very God of all gods emblazens His created ones. We catch fire and begin to glow with His light. We get hot for Him. Impurities of all manner are burned away, and we discover we are becoming fused to one another (unity in the Body), and begin to function as He

said we were in Matthew 5:14: “**Now YOU** are the light of the world!” Nothing in and of ourselves, simply fuel for Him to draw all men to Himself.

A few other thoughts came to mind: **If you want to stay aflame, you have to stay in the furnace.** If you decide to go out and start a few fires on your own, you will soon burn out, and the fires you start may be damaging wildfires, because they were not breathed by the Holy Spirit. Translation: **Father’s breath is over His Bride.** We need to remain in unity with Him and His Body.

If we remain in the furnace, unbreakably one in Him, we shine brighter with His love every day. We are a fire that gives life; We are together a fire that warms, that shines light in the darkness, that leads the way, that reveals Him. We are one with Jesus, the Light of the World.

Tonight as I put this down on paper for the first time, the words of Graham Kendrick’s song ring in my memory.

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father’s glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word Lord
And let there be light

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me