

# **SOUTHWEST: LIFE GROUP BIBLE STUDY**

## **6-3-07 - "The Ministry of Discipleship"**

### **Ice Breakers:**

- What "group" did you run with during your teenage years? Why?
- What did it "mean" to be a part of this group?
- What were the unspoken rules?
- What was the payoff for being with this group? What was the cost?

**Dig/Discuss: Read Ephesians 3:14-21.** This is Paul trying to answer some of the above questions by telling us what he prays for. This passage is loaded with powerful vocabulary and images as Paul tries to find words to explain his ministry. *Read slowly.*

### **Vs. 16-17a**

- What are the "glorious riches" of God?
- Paul's aim is for people to be "strengthened with power through His Spirit". Brainstorm every reason you can why God's people need power?
- What is this "inner being" Paul refers to? Why is this Paul's focus for where strength needs to be located?
- What is Paul's aim in all of this (according to verse 17a)? Why?

**Vs. 17b-19** – *This is one of those passages worthy of meditation. With the question "what does this passage say about love's impact?" in mind, have your group read this sentence slowly and repetitively in silence for a while, inviting God to speak. Invite anyone to share whenever compelled to.*

### **Vs. 20-21**

- How much does this passage say God can do?
- Where does this passage say God's power is at work?
- In whom does this passage say God gets glory for Himself on earth?

### **Discuss:**

After you have studied this rich passage, practice the kind of "church fellowship" that Paul wants established on the love and greatness of Christ by opening the floor of your group with the sincere question of "How are you doing?"

### **Life Group Prayer:**

Pray for those things that come out of the conversation above and sharing, and pray for the "Ministry of Discipleship" at Southwest...that it accomplishes the prayers of Paul in the Ephesians passage above.