



Enough is our Concordia University Texas theme for the 2023-2024 academic year.

We stood in line at the airport for what seemed like forever. Everyone must be traveling today! Relieved to finally reach the check-in counter, we weighed our bags and handed the attendant our passports and e-Visas. Pat Fick here. All I could think in my head and hear was, "India, here we come!" The attendant was firm as he approached us, "I can't let you get on the flight." Caught off guard by this sudden derailment of our plans, we inquired, "Why? What's wrong?" "Your e-Visa has your name written in the improper order. It says Patricia Ann Fick, and it should say Fick, Patricia Ann. It must match your passport perfectly!" Shocked and unsure of what to do next, we asked, "What do we need to do?" "Email Indian Immigration and ask them to change it to the correct order," he replied. We obediently followed his directions, but it was the middle of the night in India, so no one responded, and we were not allowed to board the plane. My world was falling apart. My plans didn't come to fruition, yet God's plans always do.

NOTES: _____

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! **Amen.**

READ
Ephesians 3:20-21 and answer these questions:

- 1.** What is something that seems impossible (falling apart on you) that you would like to ask God to do in your life?
- 2.** His power is at work. How do you recognize and see God at work in and around you?
- 3.** Why do you think Paul ended this prayer giving glory to God using the phrase "throughout all generations?" How does that phrase bring you hope today?



¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Ephesians 3:14-21

NOTES: _____

When things don't work out like we think they are supposed to, it gives us an opportunity to trust in God, who is wiser than we are! God is bigger than any problem, trial, or situation you will face. His ways are higher, and His timing is perfect. In Ephesians 3:18, Paul prays that the people would be able **"to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."** God proved his love for us when he sent Jesus to die for our sins. **"He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:32).** If God was willing to sacrifice His only Son to save us, we can trust him with the details of our lives. Even when things don't make sense to us, He is still in control, and **He is enough!** Just like I needed my e-Visa to perfectly match my passport, we need Jesus perfect life, death, and resurrection to pay the price for all our sins and provide salvation for us!

God was at work in forcing us to postpone our mission trip to India until next March. We already have more people who can participate, and we get to add some work in Chennai (Lutheran Hour Ministries and an orphanage) which wasn't on the original schedule. God does more than we ask or imagine when we wait on His plan. May He continue to work powerfully in our lives and be glorified as we share Him with the world!

DIG DEEPER

(now, later, alone, in a group):

1. Read Ephesians 3:14-21. What does Paul pray for in v. 16? Why? (Check out v. 17)
2. What picture comes to mind when you think of God's love? Describe it. (An ocean, a purring kitten, etc.)
3. Share a time when you experienced God's love!
4. How do we become rooted and established in God's love?
5. What does it mean that love surpasses knowledge? (v. 19)
6. Do you know someone who seems to be "full of God"? Describe what that means to you.

PRAYER:

Thank you God for your bigger, better plans for our lives. Thank you for loving us enough to die for us! Help us to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ! Quiet our anxious hearts as we pray the prayer you taught your disciples to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.