

**Title: Glory in the Church**  
**Passage: Ephesians 3:14-21**  
**Date: 25 September 2022**  
**Speaker: Jason Hoet**  
**Series: See His Glory**

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

[slide]

**We experience glory when something or someone moves us to a powerful sense of praise, awe, respect, honour, or thankfulness.**

In created things

The heavens may declare the glory of God.  
Humanity may be crowned with glory and honor as God made them rule over everything his hands created.

**But God's greatest witness to the glory of his handiwork is shown in the church.**

Paul prays

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.

Paul prays like this because he knows God is most glorified in his church because of his extraordinary work of grace.

I can see 3 reasons how Paul sees God is glorified in the church. God has rescued us, reconciled us, raised us. [slide]

**God is glorified in the church because he rescues us [slide]**

Paul says to the church

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, Ephesians 2:1-2

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions —it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:4-5

This year has given us powerful insight into the grace of God rescuing us.

- Baptisms, My story.
- When heard testimony did you have a powerful sense of praise, awe, respect, honour, or thankfulness?
- Were you moved to give God glory?

Reminder of the importance of remaining focussed, prayerful, intentional on following and helping others follow Jesus.

God is glorified when more people and new people are rescued.

God's grace and kindness brings God glory.

**God is glorified in the church because he has reconciled us [slide]**

Paul is amazed at the work of God in bringing Jew and Gentile together

Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13

His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility Ephesians 2:15-16

You were strangers to God “without hope and without God in the world.”

But now you reconciled with God,  
fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, Ephesians 2:19

We belong to God. Now we belong to one another  
With God at the center we are a family.

With God at the center, Church is a reconciling community. Our capacity to be family together, despite the diversity gives God glory.

Recent – breadth of community. Age, stage, cultures

How God is glorified through

- Family service.
- Promise to pray
- Iranian church
- Westcare
- Aboriginal Berean

**God is glorified in the church because he has raised us [slide]**

Paul writes we have access to extraordinary authority, power and hope

Ephesians 2:6-7 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 1:18-21

18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be

enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come

The greatest power ever seen is God raising Jesus from death. Open your eyes church to the fact this same power is available to you.

This work seen in dealing with sin, growing in grace, people following Jesus, belonging to his family, bringing hope even in the face of death

[driving to see Alice dad. All kinds of insecurities. Who am I? I am one of God's holy people sent to bring hope]

When we live as raised people, bringing light into the world. God is glorified.

### **God is glorified in the church because he rescues us, reconciles us, raises us**

Paul writes that God's glory in the church will not be kept quiet and will not end

Ephesians 3:10 His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Ephesians 3:21

The extravagance and generosity and kindness of God for his Church is the wonder of universe and ages.

God gaining glory is not petty or self centered of God because it is

[slide] God's grace and kindness brings God glory.

When God is glorified it is because we, along with all God's people, are rescued, reconciled, raised.

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 3:17-21