

INFINITELY MORE FULLNESS

INFINITELY MORE, #4

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Woodland Church

Sunday, September 13, 2020

“When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:14–21, NLT)

1. Renewal is about putting God back in the center of life.

“Please show me your glory.” (Exodus 33:18, ESV)

2. God’s glory is the presence of His unfailing love, compassion, and justice.

“The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out, “Yahweh! The LORD! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.” (Exodus 34:6, NLT)

“To glorify God means to think and act in such a way that the goodness, greatness, and beauty of God are constantly obvious to ourselves and all those around us. It means to live in such a way that when people see us they think, Thank God for God, if God would create such a life.”

Dallas Willard, Becoming Dallas Willard, The Formation of a Philosopher, Teacher, and Christ Follower, by Gary Moon

3. I have to be made complete with Christ’s fullness.

“May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.” (Ephesians 3:19, NLT)

GROWTHWORK

5 Core Commitments

1. I must be committed to the gospel.

“I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News” (Galatians 1:6, NLT)

2. I must love my neighbor.

“Don’t run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along.” (Romans 13:8, Message)

3. I must be courageous.

“In the meantime, I will be staying here at Ephesus until the Festival of Pentecost. There is a wide-open door for a great work here, although many oppose me.” (1 Corinthians 16:8–9, NLT)

4. I must be fruitful.

“The harvest is great, but the workers are few.” (Matthew 9:37, NLT)

5. I must be willing to pay the cost.

“... I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it ... If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.” (Matthew 16:18, 24, NLT)

THINK ABOUT IT

1. What comes to your mind when you think about the glory of God?
2. Make a list of what you can measure and infinitely more?
3. Have you ever experienced God accomplishing “infinitely more than we might ask or think?”
4. What is the source of the “mighty power at work within us?”

5. How does creation bring glory to God? Why do some people see it and glorify God and others do not?

“The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.” (Psalm 19:1–3, NLT)

6. How does your home location define your mission?
7. What will you plan to work on in your life, your family, your vocation to glorify God this week? How will you need His help to do that?