OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) How would you describe your spiritual growth? Are you stuck? Are you growing deeper?

b) Paul prays that we grow in our "inner man" or inner being. Is your spiritual growth an insideout growth? How can you tell?

c) Paul prays that Christ will dwell (settle down) in our hearts. Is there a room in your "heart house" that Christ is not allowed in? (thoughts, appetites, comforts, hobbies, pleasures, secrets)

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Paul begins his prayer with a look at God's glory and strength. When you think of the glory and power of God what comes to your mind? Is it the cross? Why or why not?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) In what ways does Paul's prayer point us to our union with Christ? Can you connect the doctrine of our union with Christ to being loved by God?

b) Growing deeper in the love of Christ is growing deeper into weakness, sacrifice, and the cruciform life. Where can you see God teaching you this lesson lately? Where has God been stripping you of your own strength and replacing it with his love for you?

APPLICATION

a) In Christ we have the fullness of God. What specific area of your life would change if you believed you were full of love instead of empty?

b) Paul says that experiencing the love of Christ can bring about more than we can ask or imagine. What unimaginable thing might Christ's love in and through you bring to fulfillment?

c) In what ways has the church helped you to "know the love of Christ?"

FIGHTER VERSES: Ephesians 3:14-21.

PRAYER

- Praise God for the glory and power of his love for you in Christ.
- Confess ways that you have failed to rest in the love of Christ.
- Thank Jesus for his life of love and his love that gives life.
- Ask God to help you grow deeper into Christ's love and to give him increasing control of your heart.