



**39th Biennial Convention of the LWML-SWD
Manual
Bible Study**

80th Anniversary of LWML

June 18, 2022



**Strengthened
through His Spirit**

I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His spirit in your inner being.

Ephesians 3:16-17a (NIV)

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS
701 Washington Street
Grafton, WI 53024

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**Your Strength is His Strength!
A Bible Study on Ephesians 3:14-16**

Rev. Adam Barkley – Senior Pastoral Counselor for SWD LWML

*How would you define your life of prayer? Is it vocal or quiet? Are they formal or hectic?
How do you speak to someone about prayer?*

Opening Questions

1. Introduction

Prayer is...

"We ought not to surrender this for all the riches of the world."

Lex orandi, lex credendi???

Where is St. Paul now?

St. Paul's Prayer is a response to _____.

What does this mean?

McCain, P. T., T., D. W. H., & Bente, F. (2009). Part III. The Lord's Prayer, chapter 23.
In *Concordia: The lutheran confessions: A reader's edition of the book of Concord*
(p. 411). essay, Concordia Pub. House.



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2. A Need to Kneel? - Ephesians 3:14

Why should we care?

“End Times” Posture of Kneeling

Our Posture in Prayer

Luther writes, “When the Spirit of prayer is enkindled and burns within the heart, the body will responsibly assume the proper attitude; involuntarily, eyes and hands will be upraised and knees bended.”

Augustine writes, “...the intention of their hearts is known to God, nor does He need these pieces of outward evidence for the human mind to be opened up to Him.”

Can we come to a conclusion on our posture of prayer?

How can we be certain “The Father” is listening?

Is this relationship material?

Luther, “Sermon from the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity, Ephesians 3:13-21,” printed 1525, Lenker, 8:268; StL 12:877, 22.
Augustine, *On the Care for the Dead*, 7 (PL 40:597; trans. John R. Stephenson [unpublished]).



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3. Every Family? - Ephesians 3:15

Why do we describe our churches as a *family*?

God does not give us just a name, but _____ name.

God does His Name

4. Animated by His Indwelling! - Ephesians 3:16

The Holy Spirit points!

Almighty strength is part of the divine passive.

The *source* is our unity!



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5. A Conclusion – Only in Jesus

All prayer ends with Jesus and strength.

How to define prayer from now on?

*“It was the prayer of a few godly people standing in the middle
like an iron wall for our side.”*

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