

What If.

Dear Friend,

I'm writing you today hoping for the permission to ask you a series of questions. Obviously because I'm writing you and may not hear back from you directly, you'll have to grant this right in your own conscience. If you choose to read the rest of this teaching I believe you'll be blessed to answer these questions in the privacy of your own heart.

Let's begin with the question, "*What if?*" What if, there was something presently waiting for you in God that was so wonderful that words could not describe it? Would you be willing to receive it?

Let me try to describe this beautiful place in the spirit I'm talking about. For now and through much of the rest of this letter let's just call it the "The Experience."

What if, one day you woke up to find that something too wonderful to explain in mere words had settled over your entire life? What if, you couldn't remember what day it started but deep inside you could feel that it had been there for some time?

Maybe it had been weeks or months. It just feels good. The amazing part to this experience is that your not sure when the pain left. You're just sure it's gone. The pain may have been physical or emotional or maybe both. The great thing is that it's gone.

What if, this beautiful strange phenomenon seemed to be captivating all your senses? The experience suggests that this is as close to *Heaven on Earth* as it gets and yet something keeps telling you there's still much more to be had? You know deep down you've not yet imagined how wonderful it could be.

This glory catches you up, far above life as you know it. Suddenly the petty things that once controlled your life seem too small to even mention. Thought patterns that you once tried to ignore can hardly even be remembered in this experience. The greatest quality about this new place is peace and love. You feel the urge to ask the question "How did I get here?" Yet deep inside you know the answer. You know the Holy Spirit brought you here through the very passage by which He has been teaching you for years. The other thing that you know is that he (the Holy Spirit) brought you here as quickly as he possibly could. The awesome thing about this incredibly relaxed place in God is this: you get the sense that God is enjoying this place for you more than you are enjoying it for yourself.

The peace feels strange. Strange in the sense that it's foreign to almost anything you've experienced before. There is a knowing satisfaction that there's something here that you've tried to express for years and yet found it impossible to express in human terms. It's the feeling of the permanency of this peace. This peace seems to have a peace within itself. It's a peace that

promises not to go away. Therefore, the feeling to relax is all the more reinforced because there is no sense of human effort necessary to maintain this new place.

This experience feels as if no moment is wasted. How could it be in God's presence? Every moment seems to be filled with change, intimacy, downloads of grace, wisdom and knowledge that will last a lifetime.

In this place you find it no effort to believe that God can and will provide this glory everyday for the rest of your life. You understand that if this visitation changes it is not gone. If it changes it's repositioned itself into a posture that prepares you to go out among the people as Jesus did. You're ready to meet the enemy with more power and the essence of Jesus than ever before.

In this place you know that you are being trained to know what Jesus knew at all times. That he and you are always in the bosom of the Father. Everything in your life looks different. Everything has a God perspective that you've never seen before. The focus in your perfecting now switches. Your eyes are no longer on you trying to perfect yourself for his glory, now your eyes are on him and not your effort. A place of yieldedness like you've never known replaces the sense of inadequacies.

Wow, Friend does this sound too good to be true? It's not. In fact, it's the very place described for us by Paul the apostle in Ephesians 3:14-21. Paul was praying for the church. Paul was describing the very intent of God for us when he so meticulously asks God to grant his request.

Ephesians 3:14-21 - For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

The important thing to notice about this prayer is that it's all about the love of God and how it would affect our lives. Paul requested in verse 17 that you and I be rooted and grounded in love. Believe me this is important to "*The Experience*." Paul went on with his surmised prayer in verse 18. That if we're rooted in love that this would give us the ability to comprehend something. This something is how incredibly big God's love for us is. We're not just talking big. We're talking inexhaustibly big.

Paul tries to capture this love in our comprehension in four (4) distinct dimensions. First of all he writes *breadth*, which means wide. I once visited the great state of Montana. There's mountains there that seem to enable you to see a sky that has no end in every direction. I guess that's why they call it the "Big Sky Country".

The second thing that Paul mentioned is *length*. Have you ever looked down a road that disappeared in the distance? I'm not talking about you could not see because something like a curve or hill obstructed your view. You just couldn't see the end as far as you looked and when you

turned around to look from behind you saw the same view. No end to the length. I've been in certain desert portions of the United States and seen something similar.

The third dimension Paul mentions is *depth*, which means deep. I remember when I was just a youngster I crossed a swinging bridge with my dad. The bridge forged a great gorge between two mountains. The view down would cause your senses to almost tingle with excitement at each look down.

The last and fourth dimension that Paul lists is *height*. I once stood in the desert mountains near the boarder of Mexico, close to the Rio Grande River. Night fall revealed a sight that I was not accustomed to. I saw stars in the Milky Way Galaxy that I did not know existed. The height of the universe was revealed to me in a brilliance that was almost breath taking.

Paul uses these dimensions as handles for our minds to somehow comprehend the love of God. The most amazing part is possible what Paul mentions next. ***“To know the love of God that passes knowledge.”*** This is like Paul saying, “even after I've given you guideposts to wrap your mind around, the love of God is still too big to comprehend.” Basically he is saying it's inexhaustible. We can't ever in this life under any experience come to the end of it.

If I can't come to the end of this love, because of it's immensity towards me, then I have another question. *How far have I really come in this wonderful experience of his love?* Wherever I am, I know I've only just begun. This also begs me to ask another question. *Am I interpreting who God is in the tiny little comprehensions that I'm experiencing him in right now?*

What if I settle for my present experience in comprehending God's love to be the total of who God is? Then that is where my present peace level would stop. That would also be the place my present walk of love would stop. I might be content to believe that certain fears and torments in my life should learn to be lived with. This is simply not true.

Paul says in verse 19, ***“and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge,”*** Okay Paul, let me get this straight. First you are giving me land marks so that I will have something to wrap my mind around in comprehending the love of God. Now you are saying that this love passeth knowledge, which means I'll really never be able to fully comprehend it in this life. Wow! This all seems too much.

Paul is first asking God to give us “experience” in his love that is described by the biggest of the big in all things. Just so we get the picture. Then he says in essence: Even after you get it you still won't be able to comprehend it completely.

The interesting thing is what Paul says next in his prayer. ***“That ye might be filled with the fullness of God.”*** The word fullness means the *“completeness of God,”* - nothing lacking. Now I know that nothing can ever be lacking with the person of God but something could be lacking in my “experience” with God, if I only see him through my vantage point. Seeing God through human eyes is incomplete at best. It will always be lacking in some form of faith, love, or peace. But when I see him in the revelation of who God is to me as my Father through his love, there is nothing lacking. This is where God is able to fully exert his power in our life and reveal himself to humanity around us.

Let's look at verse 20 as we continue in Paul's prayer for us. ***“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,”*** Verse 19 is the end of the petition that Paul was praying. Now in verse 20 he is actually giving thanks for the answer to the things he has requested of God. Remember the petition to God was strictly a request for a greater revelation of God's love?

Sometimes people will take a more immature approach to this verse. Not having fully understood the context in which it was written and intended. It is absolutely true that God is all powerful and that his power exceeds our wildest imagination but this is not what Paul is trying to get across in essence. Someone might say, “Boy I have a big imagination and God is able to go beyond this.” What they might be thinking is this gives me a license to dream excessive big thoughts and see if God can meet them with his power. Thoughts like: flying to the moon, becoming the king of the world, or becoming the richest man or woman on the planet was not the intention of Paul's thanks.

When he gave thanks to God for going exceedingly, abundantly above and beyond our asking or thinking, this is what he was saying. God, I just ask you to give us a revelation of your Love. God I know it's beyond our thinking but I believe you will grant this request and fulfill our asking and thinking (*comprehension*) beyond our asking.

Friend why does Paul use such strong adjectives to say that he believes God will go beyond our asking or thinking? Why not just say thanks God for meeting our request? Why was it necessary to say that God would go beyond our request?

Because **Romans 8:26** says, ***Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*** Notice we don't know how to get there by ourselves. We are limited. Notice we don't know ***“how to pray as we ought.”*** Meaning we don't know how to get there “The Experience of his love, on our own. But the Holy Spirit helps us. What kind of help

What kind of help does he give? I myself am a captive to my own experience in life. My comprehension of who God is and his most powerful attribute (love) is limited by what I know in myself. I am at the mercy of myself in proceeding any further into God and his power, unless someone takes me from my present experience and transplants me into something I've never experienced before. How can I truly know how awesomely beautiful God's next level of love is until I get there? If I can't get there on my own, then someone (the Holy Spirit) has to do a work that exceeds my present experience. It must be more abundant than anything I've ever known and be above all my present ability to ask my Father for.

Oh our dependency on the work of the Holy Spirit. Oh the need to constantly lean upon his power to take us to the next level.

Paul says this is all predicated on the power that is at work in us. The Holy Spirit is that power.

The Holy Spirit has been sent by Jesus and the Father. Their intention is that you and I would give him the distinct pleasure of taking us to the next level.

The experience of the greater Love of God will in turn transcend into fantastic miracles. The great outpouring of the last day church is all dependant on the very simple, common, yet most powerful experience of his Love. The fullness of God that Paul mentions has in it the demonstration of power to a lost and dying world.

Friend give your heavenly Father the opportunity he needs to give you this incredible experience in his love. Time spent daily praying in other tongues guarantees you and I will not stay the same. We will wake up one day and say “*Who is this faith filled giant that has come to inhabit my body?*”

Love,

Pastor Bronc

P.S. - The word says that we are to exhort one another daily while it is called today and that if two shall agree as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of our Father which is in heaven. If you have a prayer request or a praise report to share please let us hear from you. You can contact us through the web site at www.broncflint.org or email us at fpc@broncflint.org and/or feel free to write us at:

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