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At Avon Community Church, we believe our purpose is to make disciples who love God, love others and serve others in love. Whether you have always been a follower of Jesus Christ or you are just beginning to investigate His claims for the first time, we want you to know that **you are welcome here.**

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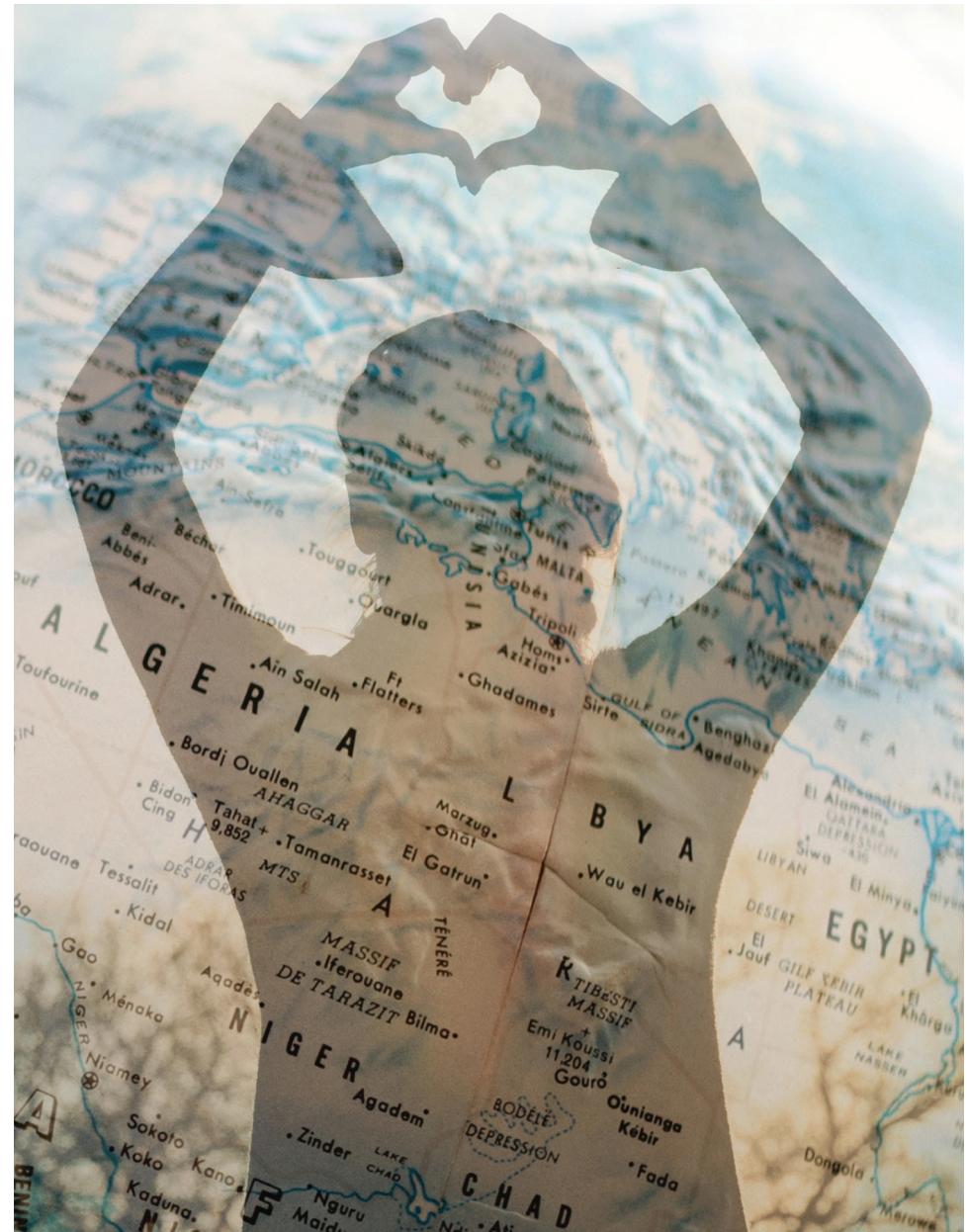
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Look us up on Facebook and YouTube.

Hearing sensitive and hearing assistance devices are available at the tech booth.

Wi-Fi access: ACCguest (password-free)



Ephesians 3:14-21  
**Through the Lens of Persecution**  
Brother Dave, Living Stones International

# Through the Lens of Persecution

## Ephesians 3: 14-21 (ESV)

“ For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen

## Why Do We Pray? - v14

- Paul bows his knees in humility and desperation.
- Prayer should not be a ritual
- Prayer is not where ministry begins, prayer is the ministry!
- “You do not have because you do not ask.” James 4:2

## Strength Comes from the Inside - v16

- True victory is not escape from suffering
- True victory is being faithful within the suffering
- “Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” 2 Timothy 3:12

## Christ Will Never Leave You - v17

- Christ dwells permanently, not as a visitor.
- He rearranges the heart and takes ownership.
- He is sustainer and companion in persecution.

## IV. The Perception of His Love – vv18, 19

- The width of His love stretches across the whole world
- The length of His love goes from eternity past to eternity future
- The depth of His love reaches to the lowest sinner
- The height of His love lifts us to the very throne of heaven

## Ephesians 3: 14-21 (NKJV)

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.