



# Immeasurably More

Pastoral Letter Extracts – 27 July 2025 (v1)

## Summary

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This document contains edited extracts from a pastoral letter shared by Ben with the church in July 2025. The full text is available here: <https://christchurchb29.org/resources/leadership/pastoral-letter-3/>.

## Letter

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I would like to begin though with a prayer from Ephesians. Don't give in to the temptation to skip ahead to the information... allow the Spirit to speak to your spirit through Paul's words...

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

**Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine**, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3.14-21, NIV)

As I shared at the APCM this year (<https://go.ccsp.uk/5531>) God is already at work in us in all sorts of ways, bringing gifts of hospitality, generosity and service. I am grateful that so many of you give so much of your time, talents and treasure to serve God in this place and in our church family. Thank you! There is and has been much faithful service over many years at Christ Church.

Yet as Paul says in his prayer there is always *more*; and at the APCM I also acknowledged that the last thing some of you want is a vicar going on about *more*! However, this passage is *not* about God asking us to do more. Look at the words from the passage above highlighted in **bold**: who does the asking, and who does the doing? This is not about *God* asking *us* to do more – but precisely the opposite! *God* is able to do more – immeasurably more – than all we ask or imagine, within us, for his glory... so let's ask him!

**In all this my prayer is *not* 'God enable us to do more' but 'God please do *your* immeasurably more in us'. That is one of the reasons for calling a week of prayer: as we enter a season of change and new things, we need *God* to continue to lead, equip and inspire us – as he has over many years.**