

Message: ***"Living Our True Identity in Christ"***

Scripture: Ephesians 3:20-21
(08-17-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

James Hudson Taylor served as missionary in China for 51 years. Taylor believed the God he served is the same as the apostle Paul described in Ephesians 3:20-21. It is the God *"who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine ..."* Taylor was the founder of China Inland Mission (Overseas Missionary Fellowship today). From the start, there's a principle that guided him: *"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supplies."* From Taylor's life, let's discover spiritual lessons we can apply today.

At the heart of Taylor's life is faithful, risk-taking, dependence on God. Early on Taylor learned that *"All our difficulties are opportunities to witness God's grace, God's power, and God's love at work."* The life mission of each believer must be about God's Work.

Furthermore, the Christian's Life Mission must also depend on God's Way. From his life experience, Taylor testified, *"Many Christians estimate difficulties in light of their own resources, and thus attempt little, and often fail in the little they attempt. But all God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they depend on His power and His presence with them."*

In his book "China's Millions", Taylor reflected on what every faithful believer will ultimately confess, *"I have found that there are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done."*

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. Considering Ephesians 3:19-22, why does Paul pray as he does? What are his views of God?
2. What is the nature of the spiritual power, love, and fullness for which he prays? How would you express this prayer in your own words?
3. How do you expect to change as you become more confident of Christ's love?