

The Me I Want To Be: Putting Down Roots

Eph. 3.14-19 (NIV) For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole 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 saints, 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.

1. Deep Roots of love begin with Jesus

“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.”

Eph. 2.4-5 (NIV) But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved.

2. Deep Roots of love mean power for everyday life

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power”

Jn. 14.23 (NIV) Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

3. Deep Roots of love feed relationships

“together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ”

Matt. 22.39 (NIV) “Love your neighbor as yourself”

Jn. 15.12 (NIV) My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

4. Deep Roots of love fulfill God’s plan for our life

“to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

Phil 2.1-2 (NIV) If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

1Jn 4.16-17 (NIV) God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.