



In Christ the church is loved by God.



Pray together today's passage.

Lord, we bow our knees before you, our Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of Your glory you may grant us to be strengthened with power through your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith—that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend together what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that we 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. (adapted)



Discussion Starters:

1. Paul prays to the Father who names every family in heaven and on earth (verse 15), giving us our identity as chosen and forgiven. He asks the Father to send his Spirit and his Son to believers. What is one thing the Spirit does? What is one thing Christ Jesus does?
2. Have you ever known something deeply—not just knowing lots of facts, but understanding through your experience? What do you think experiencing the love of Jesus in a deep way might look like? Sound like? Feel like?
3. If the “love of Christ surpasses knowledge” (verse 19), is it possible to fully know or grasp all its dimensions (height, breadth, length, depth- verse 18)? Paul prays that God would strengthen us in order to pursue knowledge of Jesus’ love anyway - it will be an adventure that will take our whole lives. What can we do to know Jesus more deeply? Will it be worth it? What is the end result of this adventure?
4. Think about how a plant’s roots help it to grow and flourish. How does God provide for a believer, “being rooted and grounded in love,” (verse 17), in a similar way?

“I pray... 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.” Ephesians 3:17b-19a

