

Reflection and Discussion

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| Sermon Series | Rooted |
| Sermon Title | The Eden Temple |
| Bible Texts | Ephesians 3:14-19 |
| Date | April 28, 2024 |

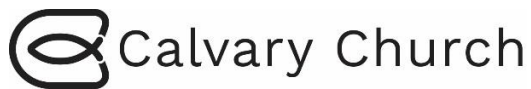
CONNECT – Getting to know one another

- Question 1: Imagine yourself in the garden of Eden before the Fall. What would you find to be the most remarkable difference from your life now?
- Question 2: What kind of things do you pray for?

EQUIP – Understanding God's word

In Ephesians 3:14-19, Paul is praying for the Christians in Ephesus. As you reflect on this passage, look carefully to see what Paul is praying for and what it will look like when each prayer is answered.

- Question 3: What was Paul's first prayer for the Ephesians in 3:16? What was the goal of this prayer ("so that ...")?
- Question 4: What would it look like when Christ dwells in our hearts through faith? How is this connected to "being rooted and established in love"? (v 17)
- Question 5: As "Christ dwells in our hearts through faith," we are his temple in a life changing way. How does knowing that you are a God's temple affect your daily living?
- Question 6: What would be the result in the Ephesian church if God fully answers Paul's prayer?
- Question 7: What do you think it looks like to be truly rooted in God's love? How would that affect your relationship with other believers? How would it impact your mind and emotions?
- Question 8: According to 1 Thessalonians 3:13, in what other ways would a strengthened heart help a follower of Jesus?
- Question 9: What is Paul's second prayer for the Ephesians (3:17-18)? Why does the answer to this prayer also require power?
- Question 10: Paul understands how spiritual life works. From the starting point of his prayer in verse 16 to its grand conclusion in verse 19, what are all the things that happen "in sequence"?
- Question 11: What would being filled with the "fullness of God" look like in a church? In your life?
- Question 12: When a church seeks this fullness, what else will be present according to Eph 4:11-13?
- Question 13: In the garden before the fall, Adam and Eve had perfect communion with God. God himself walked in the garden with them (Genesis 3:8-9). Is this type of relationship with God available for us this side of heaven? If so, what would it take to experience this?



Question 14: Christ accomplished many things for us. Why did Paul have to pray that we will experience these things? Why aren't these things automatic?

DISCIPLESHIP – Becoming and doing

Question 15: As usual, Paul's vision is big and his prayer is ambitious. We cannot take it all in through our intellect alone. It requires a relationship with God and quality time with him. I encourage you spend time reflecting on Paul's prayer for the Ephesians.

Is his prayer being answered in your life? How might you begin to pray more like Paul?
(Try for an extra five minutes tomorrow morning.)

Question 16: What is your hope for our Calvary church body as we go through this time of transition? How will your prayers for Calvary look like Paul's prayer for the Ephesians?