

Can You Grasp The Vastness of  
Christ's Love?

Ephesians 3:17b-  
19a Message

**Thank God that we are established in our love for each other, then pray that we together will grasp and experience the incomprehensible vastness of Christ's love.**

# Paul's Three Requests (Eph 3:14-19)

- I. Paul resumed his prayer started in v. 1 (3:14-15)
- II. Paul made three requests for believers (3:16-19)
  - A. Request 1: Inner strength (16-17a)
  - B. Experience the incomprehensible vastness of Christ's love (17b-19a)

“Being rooted and grounded in your love for each other, I pray that you will have the strength to grasp and experience the vastness of Christ’s love”.

Paul’s  
Second  
Request

## Paul's Second Request

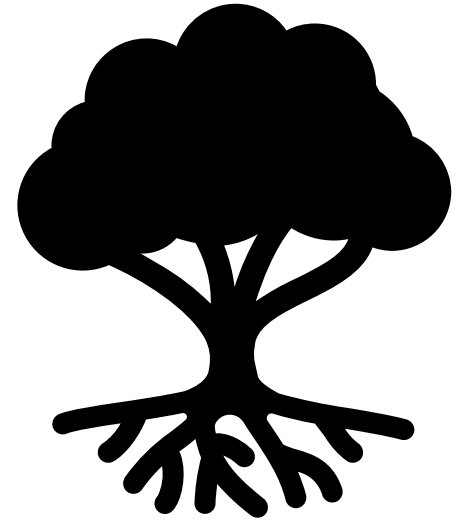
Thank God that we are established in our love for each other (17b)

Pray that we together will grasp the vastness of Christ's love (18)

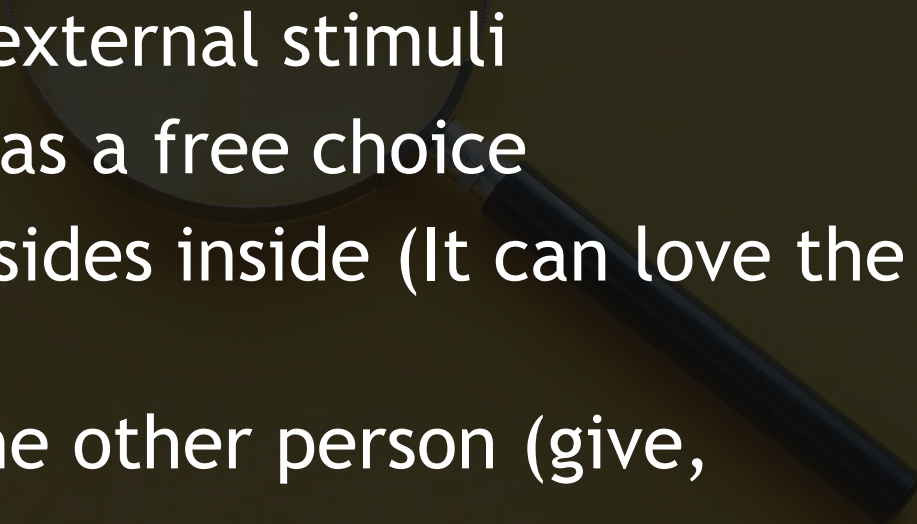
Pray that we together will experience the wonder of Christ's love for us (19a)

# Our love for each other is...

- **Rooted** is an agricultural term.  
Think: “firmly rooted like a tree”.  
Our roots should be deeply anchored in God’s love.
- **Grounded** is an architectural term.  
Think: “established like a stable building”. We must build on the solid foundation of God’s love.



# “Love” (*Agapé*)

- It is not driven by impulse or external stimuli
  - It deliberately chooses to act as a free choice
  - It arises from the love that resides inside (It can love the unworthy)
  - It seeks the highest good of the other person (give, serve)
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# “Able to comprehend”

- **Able** means “to be strong enough” to do something
- **Comprehend** means “to seize, lay hold of” something. Ex: “take the prize” (1 Cor 9:24), lay hold of it to make it their own
- When used for thinking it means “to understand, comprehend, mentally grasp”





“the deep things of  
God are more likely  
to be apprehended  
by his children in  
fellowship one with  
another than in  
isolation”

F. F. Bruce, *Colossians, Philemon and Ephesians*, p. 328

Grasping  
the  
vastness  
of Christ's  
love

“it seems to me legitimate to say that the love of Christ is ‘broad’ enough to encompass all mankind...‘long’ enough to last for eternity, ‘deep’ enough to reach the most degraded sinner, and ‘high’ enough to exalt him to heaven”

Breadth, length, height and depth

# Christ's Love

“the gift of Christ is the highest and fullest display of the love of God to sinners that was ever made from eternity to them”

John Flavel, *All Things Made New*, p. 7

# Christ's Love

The Father “in giving him [Jesus] he gave the richest jewel in his cabinet, a mercy of the greatest worth, and most inestimable value. Heaven itself is not so valuable and precious as Christ is: He is better than the half of heaven...What an excellent, lovely, ravishing One, is Christ!”

# Christ's Love

“Put the beauty of ten thousand paradises, like the garden of Eden, into one; put all trees, all flowers, all smells, all colours, all tastes, all joys, all sweetness, all loveliness in one; O what a fair and excellent thing would that be! And yet it should be less than that fair and dearest well-beloved Christ”

# Our response

“Adore the love of the Father, and the Son,  
who bid so high for your souls”

John Flavel, *All Things Made New*, p. 27

# Our response

God's love toward us reveals “the incomparable sweetness of Christianity, that shows poor sinners such a fair foundation to rest their trembling consciences upon”