

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. What does the word Love mean to you?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Read Ephesians 3:14-17. What does it mean to be “rooted and established in love” to you?
What type of love is Paul talking about?
3. Please read Ephesians 3:17-18. Pastor Ruben unpacked the word, “grasp”. It can be defined as: to lay hold of so as to make one's own, to obtain, attain to, to make one's own, to take into one's self, to seize upon, take possession of to lay hold of with the mind. In the Greek language it is describing a condition characterized by a trance or seizure and of suspended animation and loss of sensation and of voluntary motion in which the limbs remain rigidly in whatever position they are placed.
4. What is Paul the apostle encouraging readers to “grasp?” Is it possible to understand something, and not grasp it?
5. Warren Wiersbe (Bible Scholar) said, “The English words ‘comprehend’ and ‘apprehend’ both stem from the Latin word *prehendere* which means “to grasp.” Our word ‘comprehend’ carries the idea of mentally grasping something; while ‘apprehend’ suggests laying hold of it for yourself. In other words, it is possible to understand something but not really make it your own.”
6. Pastor Ruben said, “You can know the love of God and not be apprehended by it.” You can sing about it, and not be changed by it. You can talk about it, and not be transformed by it. You can read about it, and be detached from it. You can be familiar with it, and be numb to it. Have you seen this kind of attitude?

7. Someone once said, "The greatest distance on earth is the distance between your head and your heart." Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not?

8. Please read Ephesians 3:17-18. Compare it with Genesis 13:14-17; and Joshua 1:1-3. Why do you think God wants Abraham and Joshua to walk out the new land? How does this compare and relate to our lives? What do you see in these passages?

9. Please read Psalm 103:11-2; Isaiah 55:8-9; and Job 11:7. What does this tell you about God and His love?

10. Pastor Ruben said, "In Christ Jesus, you're either pregnant or your not. There's no inbetween. You're impregnated with the love of God, or you're not." What do you think about this quote? Agree or disagree?

11. Pastor Ruben said, "The thing about God's love, is it's voluntarily. You get part of it without asking, but you get all of it with surrendering." What does surrendering to God mean to you?

12. According to Ephesians 3:18, what is the goal of knowing Jesus Christ?

Application

Below are the main points of the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- The width of God's love spreads across every race. The length of His love stretches across generations. The height of His love reaches down from heaven. The depth of God's love is greater than all your sins.
- It is the heart of God for you to walk the love of God in every direction.
- The thing about God's love, is it's voluntarily. You get part of it without asking, but you get all of it with surrendering.