

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Sculpted - Part 3

Dale Stephenson

Introduction

When it comes to houses, the deeper the foundation, the better to withstand all kinds of weather. Each home has a different atmosphere - one may be a place of peace and rest, while another might feel like a lonely or even stressful place.

Just as a building may be transformed by a renovation, the Holy Spirit works to transform our hearts. The deeper we grow in Him, the stronger our foundations become. The question is, how are we looking after our hearts, knowing that Jesus Christ lives in us?

Read

Ephesians 3:14-21

Discuss

1. What is your understanding of being empowered by God's glorious and unlimited resources (v.16)? What does it look like for you?
2. In the letter, Paul says that God dwelling in our heart is the by-product of having the Holy Spirit empowering our inner strength. How have you experienced this in the past six months? Share.
3. Pastor Dale uses the term 'home renovation' and 'perpetual work in progress' as metaphors for the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. What does it mean to be perpetually a work in progress of the Holy Spirit? What could possibly hinder us from progressing?
4. Read Ephesians 3:17-19. Paul explains that we have to be deeply rooted in God's love to understand and experience the love of Christ. Do you think having deep roots is hard or easy? Explain.

(continued on next page)

5. We have to tell our feelings what we know. As Christians, we believe that everyone is known and loved by God and that our lives matter. What are some things in our lives that might conflict with this truth?
6. Read Ephesians 3:19. How do you see yourself being made complete with the fullness of life and power from God? What would you be doing then? How are you working towards that now?

Respond

God is able to do so much more than what we could ask, think or imagine. We will not be able to understand His love fully, but that does not mean we cannot experience His love each and every day. The Holy Spirit is working in us so that Jesus Christ can dwell in our hearts, growing our roots deep down into God's love. What can you do intentionally and differently to experience God's love this week and grow deeper in Him?