



**March 16, 2013**

*“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the saints, to grasp how wide, and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”*

**Ephesians 3:17b,18**

**I Personalize It! (Eph. 3:17b)**

- A. Throughout the entire prayer Paul uses the personal pronoun.
- B. Placing your name in the right places (John 3:16; I John 3:1)
- C. God’s love is easy to take for granted by generalizing it.

**II Share It! (Eph. 3:18b)**

- A. Love is an active word that has to be lived out in community. “*agape*”
- B. The greatest commandment. (Matt. 22:36-40; John 13:34,35)

**III Believe It! (Eph. 3:17c)**

- A. Two participles that speak of plants and architecture.
- B. The tree and the building has its security in their foundations.
- C. If there is no security there can be no joy, peace, or love.

**IV Get It! (Eph. 3:18a,b)**

- A. The “power” (exischyo) = The ability provided by God...
- B. To “grasp” or “take hold” (katalambano) to grasp in the mind.

**V That God Is Crazy About You! (Eph. 3:18c)**

- A. Why love, rather than some other character trait of Christ?
  - 1. Love is the only motivation that lasts!
  - 2. Love is the very nature of God! (I John 4:8) “...for God is love”
  - 3. Love is the only standard that is acceptable to God! (John 13:34)
- B. The proof of God’s love is the love of Christ. (Rom. 5:8)
- C. How wide, long, high, and deep is the love of Christ.
- D. There is no way to measure it because our imagination is too small.