

PERSONAL HOPE

Ephesians 3:14-19 • February 19, 2023

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INTRODUCTION:

A. Where were you when you really experienced God's personal love for you?

B. God's love is what we need when we are in need.

- God loves us unconditionally....period! Sometimes we forget that.

"I have loved you with an everlasting love."

Jeremiah 31:3

C. Things that charade as real love

- That we believe the charade is a sign that we really thirst for more, better more complete.

Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is.

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:17-19

I. GOD'S LOVE IS PERSONAL

Then Christ will make His home in your heart as you trust in Him.

Ephesians 3:17

He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit.

Ephesians 3:16

B. God knows us **fully** and still loves us!

- God created you (Psalm 139:14-15)
- God knows what's up in your life (Psalm 139:1-4)
- God knows when you're in need (I Thessalonians 2:7 & Psalm 56:8)

The Lord is my shepherd, I have all that I need.

Psalm 23:1

II. GOD'S LOVE EMPOWERS US

God's love (will) keep you strong...You will have the power to understand...His love.

Then you will be complete with all the fullness of life and power...

Ephesians 3:17-18

B. God empowers us from the **inside** out.

C. We need "personal spiritual power" when things get **tough**...outside and inside.

Lord don't hold back your tender mercies from me. Let your unfailing love and faithfulness always protect me. For troubles surround me – too many to count!

My sins pile up so high I can't see my way out. They outnumber the hairs on my head. I have lost my courage.

Psalm 40:11-12

- It's about how we understand something...

D. We can **count** on God.

The eternal God is your refuge, and His everlasting arms are under you.

Deuteronomy 33:27

III. MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

A. Receive God's love (Romans 5:8)

B. Refill yourself with God's love today and everyday (John 15:9)

C. Reflect God's love to others (John 13:34-35)

CONCLUSION