

**Pastor Tosha Zwanziger**  
**Ephesians Part 4—Rooted and Grounded in Love**  
**2.14.2021**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon  
and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group.  
For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority  
to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that  
will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the  
relationships.

***The Creator of the Universe, the God of all, wants to draw close  
to us!***

**Paul's prayer: that the followers of Jesus (the church, His bride)  
would be strengthened by the Holy Spirit so that we could  
grasp, comprehend and experience the LOVE that Christ has for  
us.**

***Knowing about something and actually experiencing something  
can be radically different.***

**[Ephesians 3:12-21, NLT]**

<sup>12</sup> Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. <sup>13</sup> So please don't lose heart because of my trials here. I am suffering for you, so you should feel honored. <sup>14</sup> When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, <sup>15</sup> the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth.

***There is no reason in the middle of your situation that you can't worship God through it and out of it.***

**[Ephesians 3:16-21, NLT]**

<sup>16</sup> I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. <sup>21</sup> Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

***How We Can Allow the Holy Spirit to Work in Our Lives:***

**1) Ask for a continual filling of the Holy Spirit!**

***The strengthening is not a one-time thing!***

**[Ephesians 3:16]**

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will **empower you with inner strength through His Spirit.**

***We have to recognize what God is doing, but we can't just settle there. We have to continually ask for the infilling of the Holy Spirit!***

**[Ephesians 5:18]**

**<sup>18</sup> Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit.**

**Filled in Greek:**

**plēroō** (Key) Play- ro'ō

**to make full, to fill up, to cause to abound, or supply liberally to complete so that nothing shall be lacking, full to the brim**

**2) Don't grieve the Holy Spirit. Eliminate any and everything that would!**

**[Ephesians 4:30]**

And **do not grieve** the Holy Spirit of God (do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live)

***(grieve = to offend, to bring sorrow to, to cause to draw back)***

**[1 Thessalonians 5:19, AMP]**

**Do not quench the Spirit.** (Never **restrain or** put out the fire of the Holy Spirit)

***This is about relationship; this is about friendship!***

**3) Be rooted and grounded in LOVE.**

**[Ephesians 3:17-19]**

...Then you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** will have power, together with all the saints, to comprehend the length and

width and height and depth **19**of the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge, **that you may be filled** with all the fullness of God...

***God has more for you. As you are rooted and planted in His love, there is an abundance that is going to come like you have never experienced before.***

#### **FOR MONDAY—**

1. Read Ephesians 3 and ask the Holy Spirit for strength and a fresh infilling.
2. Surrender to Jesus in a time of worship.
3. Pray for the peace of your city during a prayer walk of your neighborhood.

#### **TALK IT THROUGH**

1. When was comprehension and experience on such different levels for you? Did the situation surpass or underwhelm?
2. Where have you seen the value in a continual process versus a one-time event?
3. How do you think Paul was able to pray with passion for the Church, despite being imprisoned?
4. Why do so many people want to live in Ephesians 3.20? What are the conditions that lead to His promise? (“according to His power that is at work within us”)
5. Knowing that the infilling of the Holy Spirit is continual, how should that shape our prayer and worship life? Moreover, how does that cultivate relationship with the person of the Holy Spirit?
6. What is quenching the Holy Spirit in my life, or what is causing Him to draw back? What do I need to eliminate?
7. Why should our worship honor, revere, and make a place for the Holy Spirit? How do we accomplish this during our week?
8. What does it take to be rooted and grounded in love? How can we leverage that to live in the infinitely more, the beyond, and big things?