



Just like Redwood trees, Christians were never meant to do life alone. We are called to be connected in a church community with other believers. Today we're continuing our sermon series through the New Testament Letter of Ephesians. The letter was written by the Apostle Paul who ministered in the city for over three years. Paul lived among the people, experienced the city, and saw life change first hand. Today we're going to see the pastoral heart of Paul really lived out. Today we'll see Paul's pastoral heart: how he prayed for the church, how he invites us into a powerful life of prayer, and how he points us to the God who does superabundantly more.

1. In the beginning of the sermon we learned about how Redwood trees have roots that only go about 10 feet deep but over a hundred feet wide. They are connected to each other. Who are you connected with in your spiritual life?
2. Read Ephesians 3:14–15. Paul describes a posture of prayer and praying on our knees. Read Daniel 6:1-10. In the sermon we were invited to take the next 30 days to pray on our knees. Have you tried praying on your knees yet?
3. Paul traces our spiritual family tree. Let's look at three other passages that expand this truth: Read John 1:12, Romans 8:15–16, and Ephesians 2:19. When you think about your life, what makes it so special to be united in the family of God?
4. Read Ephesians 3:16-19. Paul prays two powerful prayers for the church: They would be strengthened in the power of the Holy Spirit. Because we are rooted and established in love we have power in Christ. How do these encourage you to pray bigger prayers in your daily life?
5. We learn that Christ will dwell in our hearts through faith. Read: John 14:23 and Colossians 3:16. What does it mean for Christ to “dwell in your heart”? What would it look like to make your heart a more welcoming place for Christ to dwell?
6. Paul mixes metaphors here: rooted like trees, built like a house. Let's see how the Bible uses both pictures: Read Jeremiah 17:7–8 and Matthew 7:24–25. How do roots and foundations help us picture the Christian life?
7. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. God is able to do “immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.” Where do you need to trust Him for “immeasurably more” right now?
8. Think about your “My Circle” card. How does this passage in Ephesians change your thoughts on praying for others and praying for God to do radical life change?