

1) Deeper through faith: From entry-level belief to all-access trust. (v.17a)

When did you first put your faith in Christ for salvation?

How deep was your faith then? Is your faith deeper or more shallow now?

Describe the difference between dwelling in a hotel and dwelling in a home you own.

Describe the difference between Christ living in you and Christ “making himself at home” in you.

Who do you know who is deeper than you spiritually? What is it about their faith that you admire? What would you have to do to get to their spiritual depth?

Going deeper means trusting Christ to invade every area of your life and make whatever changes he wants. Do you know what it like to experience and enjoy the all-access, indwelling presence of Christ?

2) Deeper in love: From shallow admiration to passionate adoration. (v.17b)

Discuss this statement: Where there is no fruit, there is no root.

Do you see an abundance of spiritual fruit in your life? If not, what does it reveal about your root system?

When you think of God’s love for you do you have the cross in view? How does the cross communicate God’s love?

How does thinking deeper about the cross move from sentimental admiration to sacrificial adoration?

Discuss these statements...

- Deep love for God nourishes spiritual life and fruit in the midst of a spiritual drought all around you.
- Deep love for God grounds you when the winds of opposition are blowing against you.
- Deep love for God stabilizes you in the midst of an earthquake of pain and sorrow.

3) Deeper to comprehend: From surface affirmation to boundless saturation. (v.18-19)

How often do you ask God for strength to comprehend the incomprehensible?

- **I want to know God’s accepting love.**

Do you believe God accepts you the way you are, no matter what you have done? How does this change your motivation for obeying him?

- **I want to know God’s lasting love.**

Have you ever wondered if God gave up on you?

- **I want to know God’s elevating love.**

If we really comprehended the height of God’s love, would we ever be enslaved to lesser loves? What lesser loves have enslaved you?

- **I want to know God’s penetrating love.**

Are you allowing the perfecting love of God to have access to the hidden parts of your heart?

Additional Scripture

- Jeremiah 31:3
- Luke 6:47-49
- Romans 8:38-39
- 1Corinthians 3:1-2
- Hebrews 5:11-14