April 9, 2017

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New Series: Transformed By The Cross

Paul's Prayer: That they would grow in their awareness and understanding of what they had in Jesus Christ.
Real Christian Growth Happens: As the <u>Spirit of God</u> our eyes to <u>understand</u> the <u>love of God</u> and <u>what He did</u> for us on <u>the Cross</u> .
1 John 1:3 " And our <u>fellowship</u> is with the <u>Father</u> and with <u>His Son</u> , <u>Jesus Christ</u> ."
Romans 2:4 "Don't you <u>see</u> how <u>wonderfully kind</u> , tolerant and <u>patient</u> God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you <u>see</u> that His Kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?"
1. Eyes Opened To Understand the Depths of God's Love
Ephesians 1:17-20 "I keep asking that the glorious Father may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparable great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead"
* Paul Prayed - that God would allow them to <u>grow</u> in the <u>awareness</u> and <u>understanding</u> of what they had in Christ: His Supreme Love—His Supreme Power.
* Christian Growth Occurs - when we see the <u>love of God</u> as the <u>Holy Spirit</u> enables us <u>to see</u> and <u>understand</u> what <u>Christ did for us on the cross</u> .
1 Corinthians 8:3 " if anyone <u>loves God</u> , his is <u>known</u> by <u>God</u> ."
2. "Strengthened In Your Inner Being"
Ephesians 3:16-19 "that according to the riches of His glory He may <u>grant</u> you to be <u>strengthened</u> with power thru His Spirit in your <u>inner being</u> that you being rooted and arounded in love to grasp how wide may have strength to comprehend the love of Christ."

* Paul's Priority: Our "inner being" over our outward life, so that Christians may know Him with true passion and depth.

* A Christian that grows, that is grounded, "______" the love of Christ.