

Rooted in Love

Resources for Pray for Schools Fortnight 2014:

4th to 18th May



I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
may have power, together with all the saints,
to grasp how wide and long
and high and deep is the love of Christ.

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Read: Ephesians 3:16,17 (NIV)

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

To think about:

Without roots, trees would just fall over! And these roots growing downwards take up even more space than the trunk and branches growing upwards.

At the beginning of an oak tree's life, when an acorn starts to sprout, most growth happens below the surface. The first part of its root system grows downward, finding water to help the branches and leaves to develop. Soon this taproot becomes a great root system spreading to be seven times wider than the part of the tree we see above the ground! The roots also burrow a long way downwards, bringing the goodness the oak needs to become tall and strong and fruitful – it can live for two or three hundred years! And when two trees grow side by side, their root systems become grafted together so they share the richness in the soil where they have become established.

When you and I come to know the Lord Jesus our lives are changed. He begins to help us to send down roots into the ground of His great love and that makes us grow in wisdom, kindness, truth and many other wonderful ways. The deeper our roots the stronger our branches, and the more beautiful our leaves and fruit.

Our Bible verse talks of having power to understand just how much God loves us and that in the end, His love is all we need. We have no idea really how amazing that love is! It stretches far below the surface, spreads to cover the whole world and reaches up to heaven.

Pray:

Lord Jesus, unless our lives are rooted in Your love and grounded in the truth of the gospel we will not have the strength we need to follow You. Please open our eyes to see Your love at work in our lives and in those around us. Send Your Holy Spirit to make us fruitful especially in our schools. Amen.

It's not just about us and God. We are a part of His family and share that love in many different ways. So as we pray for our schools let's ask God for help to see and receive His love – for ourselves and also to share with others.

Grounded in God's Word

Read: Isaiah 55: 10 – 13 (NLT)

The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth.

They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry.

It is the same with my word.

I send it out, and it always produces fruit.

It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.

You will live in joy and peace.

The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands!

Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow.

Where nettles grew, myrtles will sprout up.

These events will bring great honour to the LORD's name; they will be an everlasting sign of his power and love.

To think about:

Let's never underestimate the wonderful gift of God's Word, the Bible. To those who want to grow in spiritual maturity and in Christ's love, immersing ourselves in Scripture is essential. Psalm 119: 18 says 'Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in Your law.' When our prayers are filled with God's Word our faith can grow. And we can bless our schools through words of Scripture.



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may have power, together with all the saints,
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and high and deep is the love of Christ.

Pray:

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word which is 'alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword'... judging 'the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.' May our lives be enriched and guided and our prayers shaped by its truth and grace.
Amen.

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