

Loving your local church:

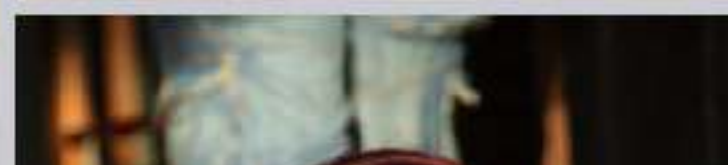
Ephesian Adventures

Richard and Nicola Moy, Lee Abbey, February 2025











**If your church
was a team...**

Who would you be?

BLOB FOOTBALL

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Love your local church

Ephesian Adventures



soma
SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD

For the praise of his glory
A dwelling in which God lives
To him be glory in the church
Growing up in Love
A profound mystery
Grace to all

Ephesians 1
Ephesians 2
Ephesians 3
Ephesians 4
Ephesians 5
Ephesians 6 (Communion)

Ephesus

A place of spiritual battle

- N.T. Wright suggests that Paul was imprisoned in Ephesus after a riot led by Demetrius the silversmith. Wright's ideas about Paul's imprisonment appear in his biography Paul.
- Wright suggests that Paul's imprisonment in Ephesus was the result of a mob attack. Wright suggests that evil forces rose up against Paul and the Way after he challenged them. He thinks Paul's imprisonment may have been the result of the riot led by Demetrius the silversmith.
- Paul himself doesn't provide details about his imprisonment but mentions multiple imprisonments in 2 Corinthians 11:23 and 1 Corinthians 11:32 mentions hardships in Ephesus.



Day Two

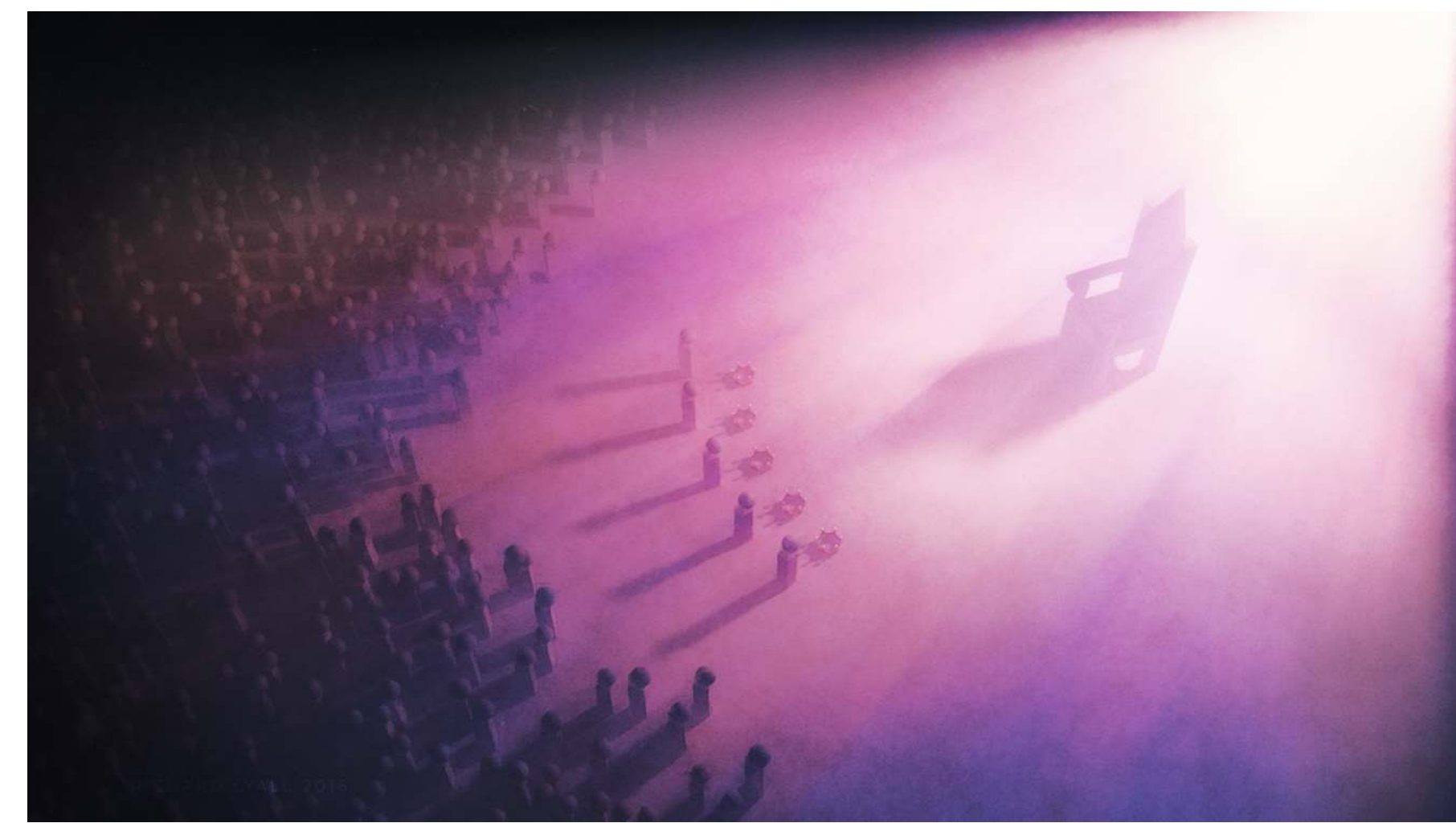
Into Battle

For the Praise of His Glory

Ephesians 1: What it is all for

For the Praise of His Glory

Ephesians 1: What it is all for.



Paul: Chosen | To be an Apostle [cf Acts 9:16]

To: God's holy people [] who are called to be faithful followers

Blessing: May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give your grace & peace

Opening: 1. All praise to God who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms... and how has loved, chosen, adopted and made us holy; 2. Who will bring everything together under the authority of Christ + makes everything work out in accordance with his plan, guaranteeing our inheritance with the Holy Spirit; 3. Spiritual insight to see this reality; 4. Jesus is seated far above every spiritual and temporal ruler and authority [and so are you cf. Eph 2.6].

Refrain: “*To the Praise of His Glorious Grace/Glory*” 1.6, 1.12, 1.14; 3:20, 3:21

For the praise of her glory...

‘Great is Artemis of the Ephesians’



What were the Ephesians up against

The cult of the Ephesian Artemis (Diana)

The temple of Artemis was one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Four times the size of the Athenian Parthenon, the famous Temple of Artemis had 127 gleaming marble columns that stood 60 feet tall and were topped with Ionic capitals.

Artemis/Diana was worshiped throughout Asia Minor and the world according to Acts 19.

Artemis was a statue/idol that supposedly fell from heaven as a multi-breasted goddess of fertility.

There were many local idols and local Artemis cults throughout Asia minor.

Artemis had unsurpassed cosmic power attributed to her.

A significant portion of the city's economy depended directly on the temple



Battle of the sexes?

Artemis, daughter of Zeus, was born in the woods near Ephesus. Her twin brother was Apollo and his painful birth took nine days, which left Artemis with no desire to give birth herself. Zeus granted her immunity to Aphrodite's arrows and she became a special sympathy for women giving birth and for virgins.

In this creation narrative, she is born before Apollo and so her followers saw her as the most important. In the Artemis cult, attitudes of female exaltation or superiority existed. The Artemis myth in many ways replaces a much older myth of Cybele and Attis. In that myth the goddess is created first before her male consort. [Cybele is also known as Kubaba, and possibly has antecedents in Hittite religion going back 5000 years].

The name Artemis, from ἀρτέμειω, means “to be safe and sound.” In the first century, Strabo wrote “Artemis has her name from the fact that she makes people ‘artemeas’ meaning sound, well, or delivered” [delivered].

[1 Timothy 2 - written to Ephesus] some women/wives in the female-dominated Artemis culture had an attitude of disregarding their marriage and lording over their husbands. This was probably fuelled by the ideas of Artemis followers who forbade marriage. In 1 Timothy Paul wants to break a similar pattern in Ephesus. Paul therefore stressed that women who deceived men should not teach in the church, and that Adam came first. If 1 Timothy is an apologetic against false teachings in Ephesus it fits much better with what we know of Paul's missionary practice e.g. in Acts 18, taking Priscilla (and Aquilla) with him and teaching her to teach.



Paul's Spiritual Battle...

In Jesus God has gone down to the darkness



N.T. Wright

New Testament/Early Christianity, University of St Andrews

Our Spiritual Battle Now...

Risa, one her visit to Rwanda



4:00-5:58

Your Spiritual Battle...

Depraved | Disobedient

The enemy's agenda (Ephesians 2:1-3). Dead | Deceived | Doomed

You were **dead** in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, **gratifying the cravings** of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature **deserving of wrath**. [NIV]

It wasn't so long ago that you were **mired** in that old **stagnant** life of **sin**. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You **filled your lungs with polluted unbelief**, and then **exhaled disobedience**. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. [MSG]

For the Praise of His Glory

Ephesians 1: What it is all for



17/02/2025

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood

...all in all this makes this place an excellent training ground for spiritual warfare, when you are accompanied by the right team and diligent intercessors. We are so grateful for our SOMA Community of Prayer. It also makes you more aware of the relatively hidden spiritual warfare going on in every country around the world,...above all we remember this wonderful reality: Romans 16:20: 'the God of heaven will soon trample Satan under his feet.'

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Youth leader conference for Jonglei internal province

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07/02/2025

Team arrive in South Sudan

The team from the UK, Kenya and South Sudan about to travel to the conference

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A dwelling in which God lives

Ephesians 2: rising to be a
holy temple

T O R N

V E I L

A community of prayer...

Yesterday something extraordinary happened among the students at a Bible School which became for 4.5 precious hours a Community of Prayer.

The morning had begun with routine. A half empty chapel at 11:05, some joining in online, some away. Some humble notices from a doctor turned theology student, some seemingly routine worship songs, a talk marvelling at the mystery of the efficacy of the cross, from 1 Cor 1, followed by a low key communion with wafers and juice passed along rows to take together, and a semi-reluctant response with participants deciding to stand, or not stand, or slip away by 12:30.

A community of prayer...

But gradually something happened. Already there and been those in the worship response slot pushing on in worship, already there had been a build up to Easter in people's recent memories and a devotion to the crucified and risen saviour that had been forged through Holy Week and Lent and the chance to be away from college routine for Easter break, already you could hear people praying in tongues during worship songs, trying to catch the wave of God's Spirit that some find they can do during sung worship, and as Tozer more eloquently explained it, join in with the worship already being directed by the Spirit.

A community of prayer...

But then into the microphone came one of the singers expressing her inner longing for the Lord through one of the routine songs, eyes closed, knelt down, unassumingly and humbly refusing to not press deeper into that sanctuary of God we are invited in the Psalms to enter through the gates of with Thanksgiving and into the courts of with Praise. The band and remaining worshippers began to respond. About 25 or so in the room kept going.

... a permission giving invitation to leave was made...

I slipped out to retrieve my books and laptop as I had a prearranged meeting for 12:45 and was due to give a lecture on Mastering Ceremonies at 2pm to the Pastoral Leadership cohort, one of whom was currently singing on the stage. While out of the room I had a blessed encounter with another priceless student who needed to apologise for some late work, but actually needed some encouragement and a steer for her writing. 5 minutes later I was back in the room and could see the momentum building.

... a permission giving invitation to leave was made...

My 12:45 was in the room and at 1pm came to ask, 'do we get coffee or stay here'. "It's obvious isn't it? We stay.' She was a well established lecturer at the college a longstanding member of faculty responsible for the first semester of the course I teach on. She had seen a few moves of God like this in the chapel over the past 15 years or so, and like me was keen to ride it out and see if the students and some staff in the room would push on deeper in worship. She returned to prayer. I watched on from the sides and waited to see what God would do.

... a permission giving invitation to leave was made...

By 1:30 the worship had been going on for 90 minutes after the sermon was over. I had clocked each 30 minute breakthrough and was amazed to see the seamless transitions going on between staff/students on the stage as students increasingly took responsibility for worshipping and moved effortlessly off the stage/platform passing microphones, instruments and even drumming responsibilities to each other. One chorus echoing John the Baptist's 'I must become less, he must become more' seemed really poignant as simple lines and stanzas were repeated over and over again amidst an array of unrehearsed choruses.

... a permission giving invitation to leave was made...

Around then a permission giving invitation to leave was given by one of the worshippers in the congregation who was most caught up in prayer. 'God's presence is everywhere and goes everywhere so [lease don't feel you need to stay any longer, there's no judgement for leaving, but for me I just want to be here because it's fun.' She was revealing in God's love, a first year in college I'd met a couple of times when teaching on the New Wine DY course last year. There was no way she was leaving anytime soon. Nor was anyone else. It was a sweet moment.



Just after 2pm: Video Report

Testimonies, humility, deferring, distraction and a cry from the heart for the college

Another student from my class shared a beautifully broken testimony about how she hadn't wanted to be there today, was distracted with work, going through the motions being in chapel but now God was in her, with her and for her and working through her.

All the while the worship team humbly deferring to each other and an open mic that mixed long bible readings 1 Cor 15, Ezekiel 43, Isaiah 42 among others with meditating on God's precepts and considering God's ways.

Just before 2pm I went to class and told the one student there we were in chapel and left a note for any late arrivals to join us. They were going to learn more in the half an hour of this overflow they might experience than the first half an hour of my lecture (although the Eugene Peterson material on pastoring was very good). Half an hours went by and by. By 3pm the overflow worship was 3 hours in, the whole service nearly 4 hours in. It felt like these students had sat in the presence of Jesus for the duration of his exaltation on the cross and that something significant had been won in the spiritual realms by their tarrying with him there for that length of time.

A member of staff had come and closed an outside door to keep the noise in the chapel, and then some minutes later come and opened it again realising they wanted the Spirit at work in that worship to spread around the corridors and courtyard from this precious time. An intercessor in the room shared her guttural conviction that God wanted a purity of process in the college and that any meetings about the life of the college would only seek to glorify Him.

Agony, underbelly of issues, repentance, elemental forces, and striking the ground five or six times...

A longstanding college member had shared her agony early on that these moments had come and gone over the past decade or more, with soft close worship often extending an hour or more for a few weeks at a time, but an underbelly of issues remaining in the college. Perhaps issues the preacher was referring to from 1 Corinthians where divisions could grow as believers rallied around position and people and profile not uniting humbly around the crucified Christ. The 35 or so people now in the room were then led into a place of gentle but thorough repentance, and putting on the whole armour of God before, gently and firmly, any elemental forces that might have held the college to ransom, or spiritual bodies, or 'princes and principalities' were bound and banished and the Jude 9 statement was made that Archangel Michael said to the devil when contending about the body of Moses, 'the Lord rebuke you'.

Ground zero had been reached.

Agony, underbelly of issues, repentance, elemental forces, and striking the ground five or six times...

So far this was all very familiar to me from worship around the world, where it is more than usual for services to carry on for hours, often surfing the waves of the Spirit, sometimes replicating the form in passionate devotion. But from here on it felt like we began to push through to the lower hills of spiritual experience available to saints who set out to climb the mountain of the Lord. A reading from 2 Kings 13: 14-19 invited a heart felt response to 'strike the arrows 5 or 6 times' and there was a sense that this was a group prepared to push on and do that (read it if you don't know the story).

THEN ELISHA SAID, "TAKE THE
ARROWS!" SO HE TOOK THEM, AND
ELISHA SAID TO THE KING OF
ISRAEL, "STRIKE THE GROUND!" SO
HE STRUCK THE GROUND THREE
TIMES AND STOPPED.

- 2 KINGS 13:18

Overflow continues... the next day

For me the overflow continues, the commissioning to go out - love, serve, train - was apt and godly and the breakthroughs in the spiritual realm clear and expected to last, if as a community the college will press 'further in and further on' with God.

As a last word it has long been my contention that theology and bible colleges are some of the most contested spiritual places on the planet. It should not be as the collective spiritual authority of faculty and students far outweighs the guile of the enemy, but they are high profile enemy targets and we are fickle, weak, distracted, prayer less and self-absorbed and sometimes self-motivated, ambitions and proud all of which offers the 'princes and principalities' our Ephesian 6 'battle is against' a way in.

Overflow continues... the next day

The antidote in humility, prayer, obedience, worship and seeking first the Kingdom and living for the praise of His Glorious grace.

Yesterday was a step, a very big step I'd say, in the direction of the cross of Jesus. A spiritual treasure to be treasured and built upon.



Video report 3:30pm

Day Three

Glory in the Church

Love your local church

Ephesian Adventures



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SHARING OF MINISTRIES ABROAD

For the praise of his glory
A dwelling in which God lives
To him be glory in the church
Growing up in Love
A profound mystery
Grace to all

Ephesians 1
Ephesians 2
Ephesians 3
Ephesians 4
Ephesians 5
Ephesians 6 (Communion)

Glory in the church

Ephesians 3: 'to Him be...'

U N C O N T A I N A B L E L I F E

RICHARD LYALL 2020

‘Overflow:

Focus on the Holiness of God & personal & corporate repentance

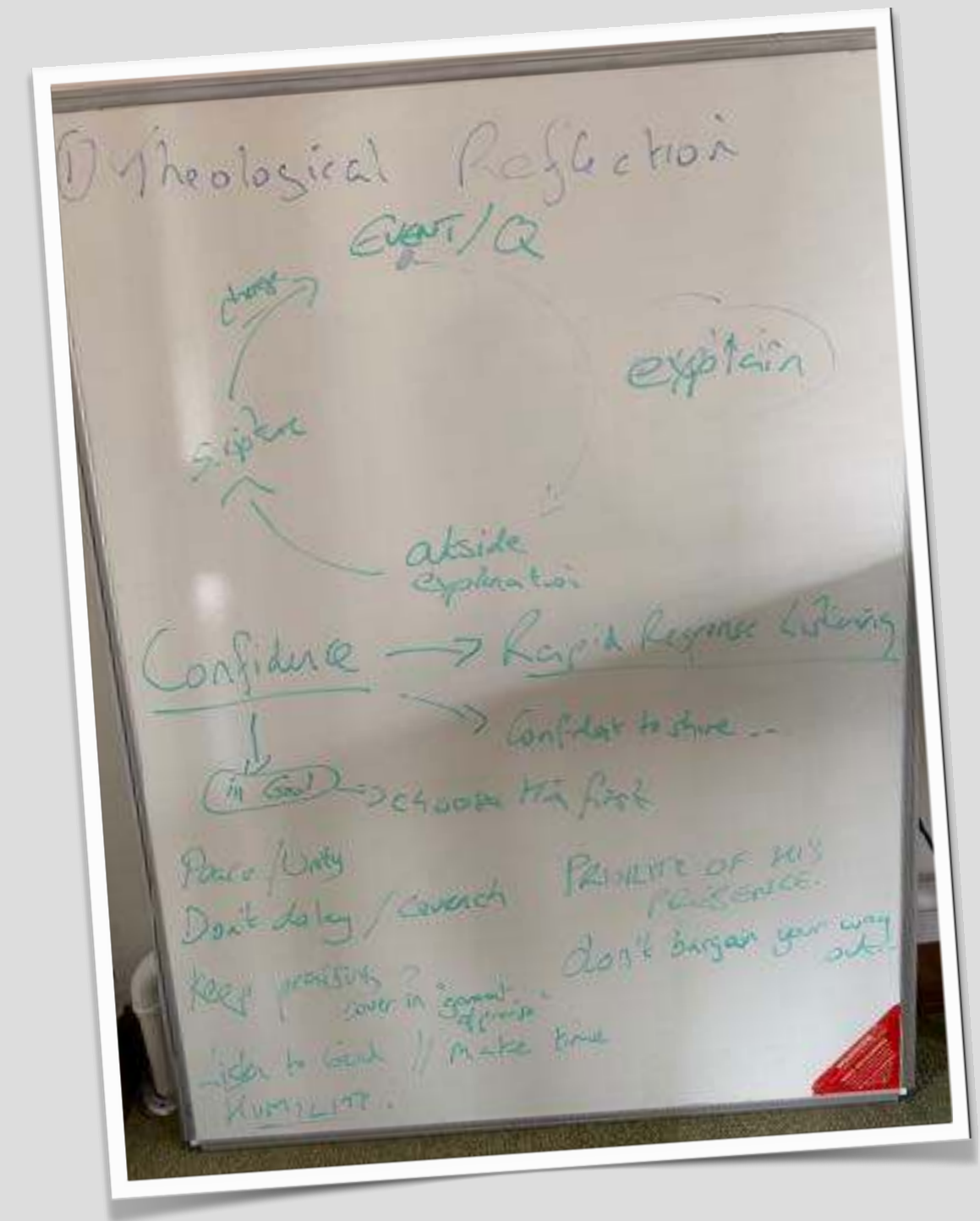


Why Overflow may fissile out...

One of the profound insights of this session is that each of us had different things we thought we might need to do to continue to cultivate this sense of God's presence

For me as an academic, teacher, with a position and power my deepest sense was 'get out of the way' go for humility.

For the chronically busy/stressed with exams and deadlines it was 'make room for God' 'make time' 'don't bargain your way out of God's presence and just give him your minimum (time) and go'



Why Overflow may fissile out...

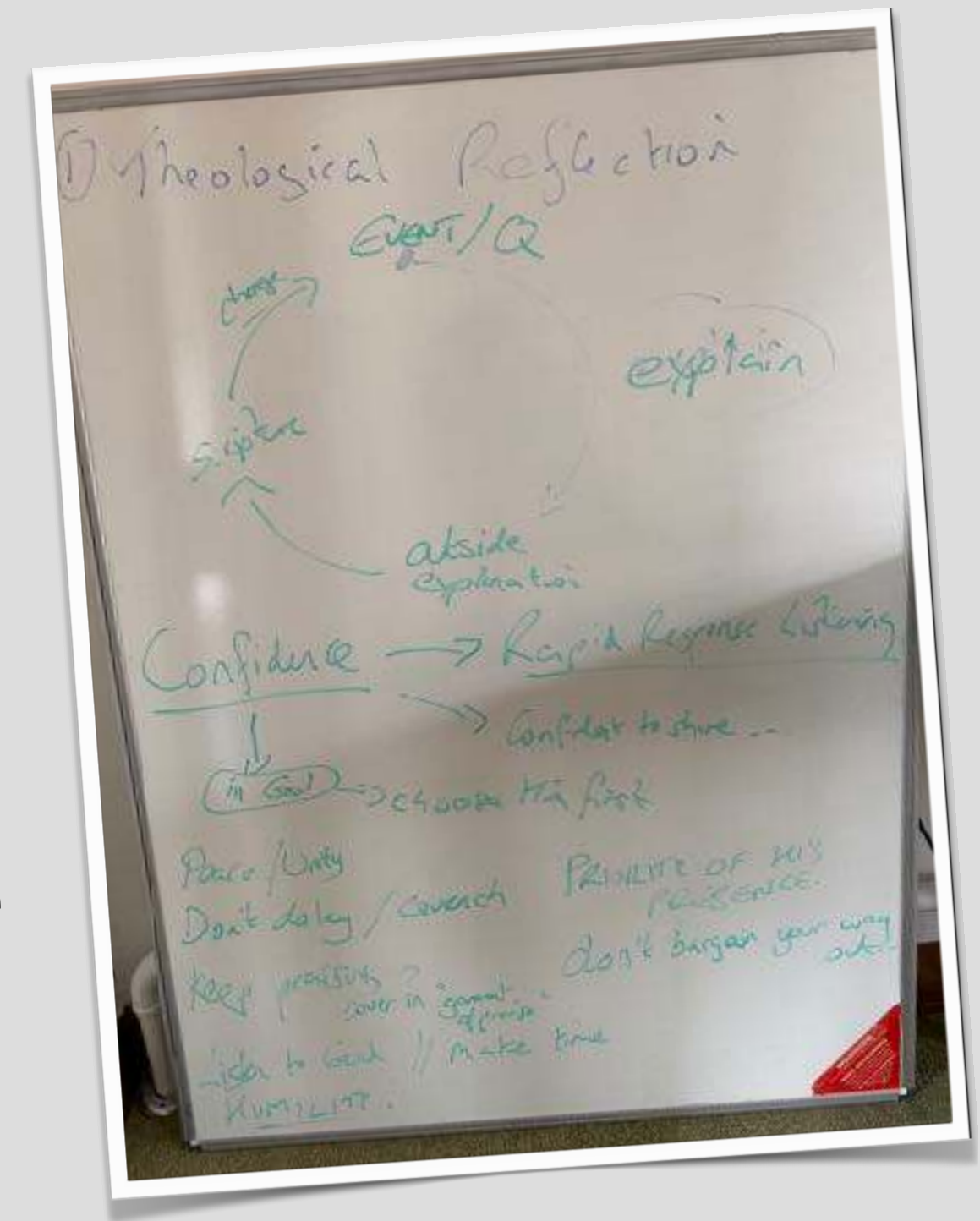
For two of the younger, least powerful members, it was 'have confidence' - be confident to share what God is saying, choose Him first, be confident in Him.

For several it was 'rapid response listening' - when they got a nudge from God to respond straight away - not take 15 minutes to act and maybe miss the boat.

Others noted the importance of praise 'cover in a garment of praise.'

Echoing the Psalm: "I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart, I will enter His courts with praise"

Prioritising his presence, and not letting sin get a foothold were also key themes.





What do we take home?

Overflow - Afterglow - No flow

Repentance as a key gift to the church

Songs focusing on God's holiness and his glory

An attitude that we should fade away

The willingness of the Holy Spirit to lead our worship and prayer
times

The pressing in to God's presence (striking the ground 5/6 times)

The beauty of the Lord

The ability to remember and feed our faith on the encounters we had

The way God wants to use all the body to build each other up

The importance of leadership - in getting out of the way as much as
taking control

"Let all other names fade away"

What do we take home?

Overflow - Afterglow - No flow

The spiritual battle that can only be won through prayer (and fasting)

The way a few 'hungry' people can be a spiritual conduit for God and others

The way we came away feeling - both unworthy and blessed

The need to help those arriving later to make the '45 minute' journey and catchup in His presence

The importance of giving space and a hearing to the prophets and the agonising cries of their hearts

That God is working through young people, mid-life people and older people.

That we must become less, he must become more

"Let all other names fade away"

'David's book will help to fortify every believer intent on winning this battle.'

Terry Virgo

David Devenish

Demolishing Strongholds

Effective Strategies for Spiritual Warfare

David Devenish shares insight drawn from many years of personal experience in helping people break free from strongholds that have bound them. In this no-nonsense guide to spiritual warfare, he gives us effective strategies for spiritual warfare which include:

- Having a biblical model for understanding the enemy's strategies and dealing with them.
- Keeping a balance between the reality of Satan and the demonic realm, our responsibility for our actions, and the absolute sovereignty of God.
- Understanding that strongholds are wrong thinking and learning to use godly power to pull them down.
- Understanding our authority in Christ.
- Knowing our weapons and using them.

'A book full of biblical shocks and surprises that God has owned to cause all heaven (and hell!) to break loose and set thousands free. A superb manual that will make you mad with the devil and eager to sign up and fight.'

Greg Haslam, Westminster Chapel, London

'David's book on demolishing spiritual strongholds is the clearest biblical teaching on the subject I have ever read. This book should be mandatory reading for all serious Christians.'

Barney Coombs, Salt & Light Ministries

'I was captivated and intrigued by the timely warning in *Demolishing Strongholds*. David Devenish has provided valuable insights on spiritual warfare. This book should be required reading for all who seek to advance the Kingdom of God through intercession.'

John Paul Jackson, Streams Ministries International

David Devenish is based at Woodside Church, Bedford, UK and is developing relationships with many churches in Russia and Ukraine, and encouraging church planting in unreached parts of the world. He has written several books including *What on Earth is the Church for?* and *Fathering Leaders, Motivating Mission*, and has developed several training courses. He is married to Scilla and they have four married children.



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Needless Casualties of War - book /video recommendation c.90% recommended(!)
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Glory in the church

Ephesians 3: 'to Him be...'

U N C O N T A I N A B L E L I F E

RICHARD LYALL 2020

As a prisoner in the Lord (3:1, 4:1, 6:20)

What does Glory in the Church look like...?



Romanian Pastor: Richard Wurmbrand d. 17 Feb 2001

I have a vivid memory of being in church listening to a man preach in what sounded to my south coast ears as a very heavy accent. It was the evening service and the church was packed with 600+ people. The man sat for the duration of his 70 minute talk. He told the story of how he had been imprisoned for 14 years in Ceausescu's Communist Romania. I didn't remember it but his wife also was there and gave greetings. She was imprisoned at the same time as him in a separate prison.



Today I got to listen to the talk again. It was touched by delightful humour, he said they had been married for 100 years – 50 years each, and not a few cultural gaps between 1987 post-communist culture and 2020s in London. But a few things were really remarkable to me:

1. the date the talk was given: 1/11/1987 – 2 years and 2 months before the fall of the communist regime.
2. the date the talk was given: 1/11/1987 – when I was 9.5 years old. What a vision my parents must have had to take me to church for that profound experience. Indeed I started attending the evening service for the next few years as my parents alternated who got to go twice on Sunday and I got some precious 'grown up' time one on one with each of them (this in addition to the excellent morning sunday school [we had a boys group for 11-14s with 30 lads in it]).
3. a story he told from Communist China, in which he references a group of villagers oppressed in the Boxer Rebellion. All their bibles and hymnals were burnt in front of them, save for one page a brave boy snatched from the fire. The passage saved: Matthew 16.

Redeeming Saul discovering Paul

Ephesians 3:2-13

For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God (1 Corinthians 15:9 – written from Ephesus AD 52-54).

This grace was given to me — the least of all the saints — to proclaim to the Gentiles the incalculable riches of the Messiah (Ephesians 3:8 – written from prison in Ephesus AD 53-54)

This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” — and I am the worst of them (1 Timothy 1:15 – written towards the end of his life in 62-64 AD).

Boasting in Sufferings

... 'what is lacking...' Col 1 & 2 Cor 11/12

Colossians 1:24-29 (ESV)

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, ²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.



raise up...
querading as apostles of Christ...
wonder, for Satan himself masquerades
as an angel of light. ¹⁵ It is not surprising,
then, if his servants also masquerade as
servants of righteousness. Their end will
be what their actions deserve.

Paul boasts about his sufferings

¹⁶ I repeat: let no one take me for a fool.
But if you do, then tolerate me just as
you would a fool, so that I may do a little
boasting. ¹⁷ In this self-confident boast-
ing I am not talking as the Lord would, but
as a fool. ¹⁸ Since many are boasting in the
way the world does, I too will boast. ¹⁹ You
gladly put up with fools since you are so
wise! ²⁰ In fact, you even put up with any-
one who enslaves you or exploits you or
takes advantage of you or puts on airs or
slaps you in the face. ²¹ To my shame I ad-
mit that we were too weak for that!

Whatever anyone else dares to boast
about — I am speaking as a fool — I also
dare to boast about. ²² Are they Hebrews?
So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are
they Abraham's descendants? So am I.
²³ Are they servants of Christ? (I am out
of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I
have worked much harder, been in prison
more frequently, been flogged more se-
verely, and been exposed to death again
and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the
Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three
times I was beaten with rods, once I was
pelted with stones, three times I was ship-
wrecked, I spent a night and a day in the
open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the
move. I have been in danger from rivers,
in danger from bandits, in danger from
my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles;
in danger in the city, in danger in the
country, in danger at sea; and in danger
from false believers. ²⁷ I have laboured
and toiled and have often gone without
sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and
have often gone without food; I have been
cold and naked. ²⁸ Besides everything else,
I face daily the pressure of my concern for

and Father...
praised for ever, knows that I am not lying.
³² In Damascus the governor under King
Aretas had the city of the Damascenes
guarded in order to arrest me. ³³ But I was
lowered in a basket from a window in the
wall and slipped through his hands.

Paul's vision and his thorn

¹² I must go on boasting. Although
there is nothing to be gained, I will
go on to visions and revelations from the
Lord. ²¹ I know a man in Christ who four-
teen years ago was caught up to the third
heaven. Whether it was in the body or out
of the body I do not know — God knows.
³ And I know that this man — whether in
the body or apart from the body I do not
know, but God knows — ⁴ was caught up to
paradise and heard inexpressible things,
things that no one is permitted to tell.
⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I
will not boast about myself, except about
my weaknesses. ⁶ Even if I should choose
to boast, I would not be a fool, because I
would be speaking the truth. But I refrain,
so no one will think more of me than is
warranted by what I do or say, ⁷ or because
of these surpassingly great revelations.
Therefore, in order to keep me from be-
coming conceited, I was given a thorn in
my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to tor-
ment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the
Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said
to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for
my power is made perfect in weakness.'
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly
about my weaknesses, so that Christ's
power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for
Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in
insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in
difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am
strong.

Paul's concern for the Corinthians

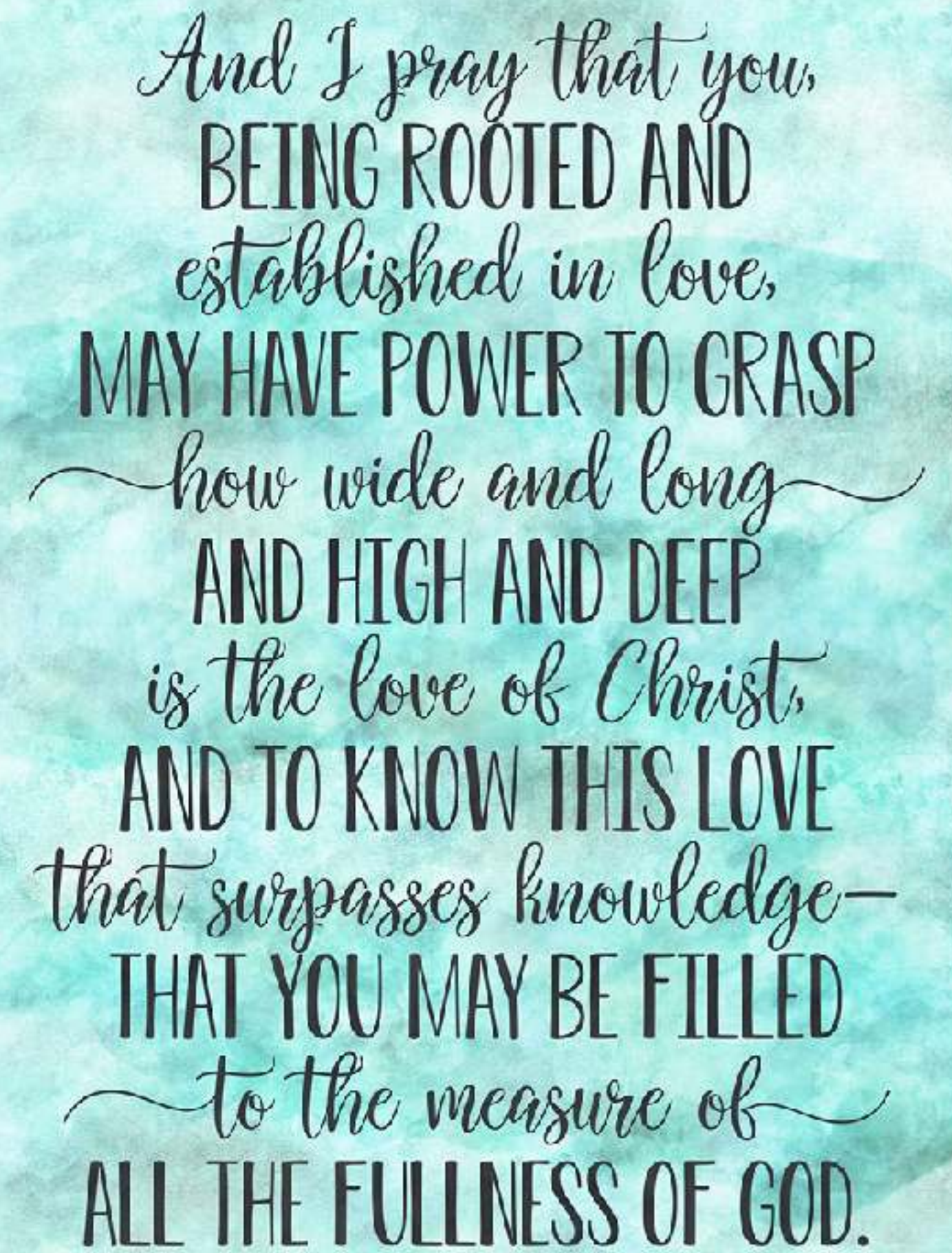
¹¹ I have made a fool of myself, but
you drove me to it. I ought to have been

A prayer for the Ephesians

What is it all about?

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his **glorious riches** he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...

...Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.**



And I pray that you,
BEING ROOTED AND
established in love,
MAY HAVE POWER TO GRASP
how wide and long
AND HIGH AND DEEP
is the love of Christ,
AND TO KNOW THIS LOVE
that surpasses knowledge—
THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED
to the measure of
ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

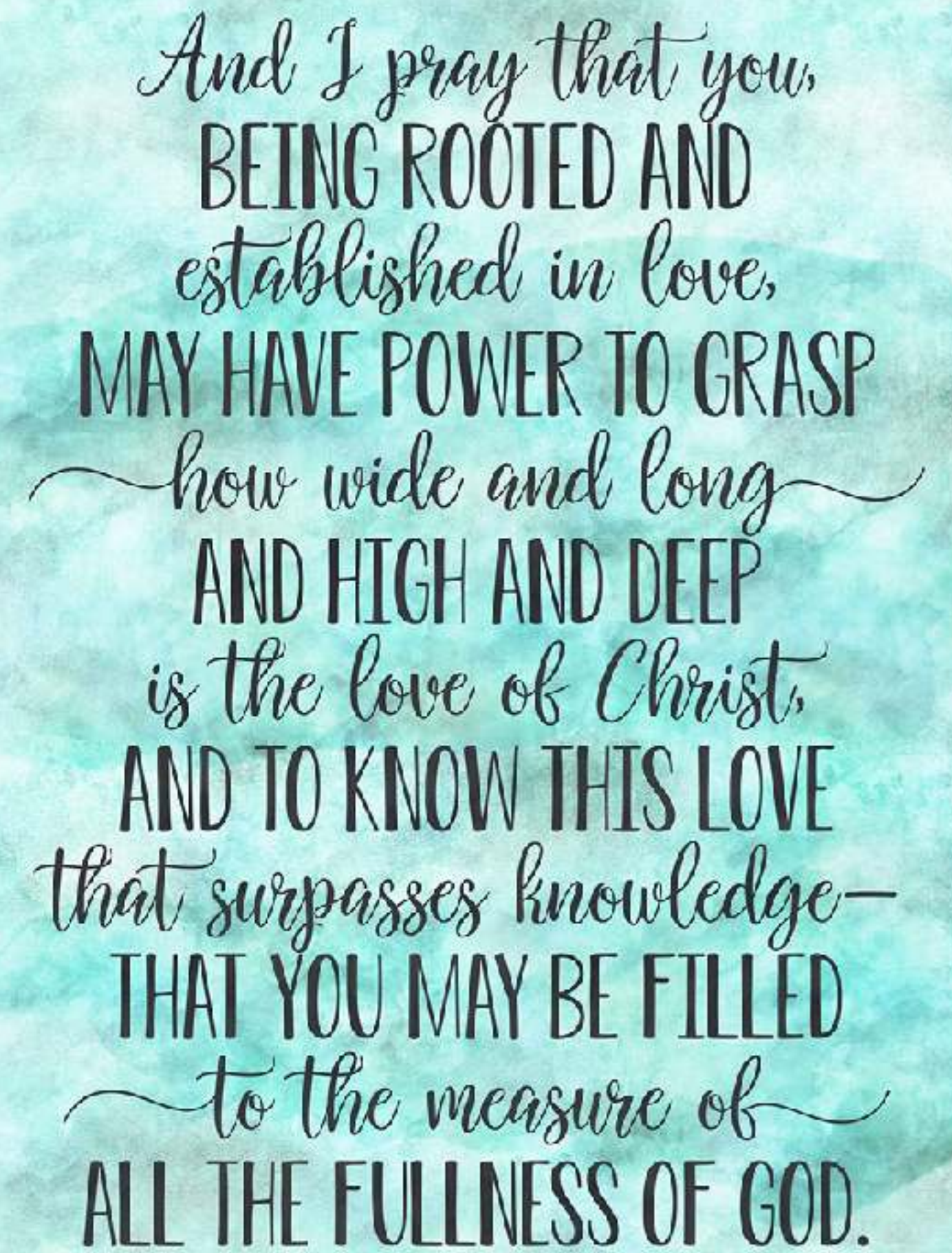
Ephesians 3:17-19

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ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

Ephesians 3:17-19

What's your focus?

The contemporary message

A life worth living

- Benefits to me, benefits right now
- What did I get out of that?

A holy people, for a holy God

- Glory of God, eternal glory...
- 'As rain and as snow' [Isa 55 10-13]
- What did God get out of that?



Image: Holy Mount Athos,
Alfons Mucha

John Wesley and George Whitefield

“A holy people for a holy God”

“when their theological scheme is contrasted with the espoused theology in parts of the contemporary charismatic church the similarities between the two seem clearer than when pitted against each other.”




Wesley and Whitefield synthesised [Maddock].

1) They both proclaimed the doctrine of original sin and the Bible's depiction of the fallen human condition. They insisted that according to the Scriptures, apart from divine intervention, every person, without exception, is deserving of God's just condemnation.

2) God's response to this dire diagnosis, is the good news of God's unmerited kingdom towards undeserving sinners. They insisted that by God's grace, individuals can have their sins forgiven and stand justified in God's sight, only through faith in the merits of Jesus's substitutionary sacrifice.


3) The necessity of spiritual regeneration, and that this experience of the “new birth” marked the entry point to a life of expectant progressive sanctification

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SEARCH RESULTS FOR: WESLEY AND WHITEFIELD29 POSTS



CHURCH OF ENGLAND MINISTRY, NEW WINE / HTB, THESIS
Part Twenty-Eight: Men of One Book – the gospel Wesley and Whitefield (and we today?) shared...
April 4, 2022 – 0 Comments




CHURCH OF ENGLAND MINISTRY, NEW WINE / HTB, THESIS
Part Twenty Seven – Charismatics: Are we really successors to Wesley/Whitefield? What they (both) believed and why...
March 28, 2022 – 1 Comment

Wesley and Whitefield synthesised

... and additionally...

4) Both men are clear that scripture is the book of truth, the only standard of truth.


5) Their doctrine of sin and theological anthropology that ‘we are all dead in sin and trespasses’, has eternal consequences. For both, humanity needs rescuing from original sin. Sin is a loathsome leprosy, not easy to shake off, and not simply a sickness to recover from. As we have seen both share an eschatology that compels their discipleship goals. They are clear that there is a judgment to come, and a desire to flee the wrath to come is necessary for those who seek new birth.

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Holiness - the 'chief reason the people called Methodists were raised up' [Wesley].

Early Methodism had a clear, compelling discipleship goal of a 'holy people for a holy God,' Birthed in the spiritual furnace of the Oxford Holy Club, this focus on sanctification had for them a compelling theological rationale and was a clear focus of teaching and espoused theology. In his 1783 sermon, *The General Spread of the Gospel*, John Wesley recounted the whole purpose of his life's work as:

'Between fifty and sixty years ago, God raised up a few young men, in the University of Oxford, to testify those grand truths: That without holiness no man shall see the Lord; that this holiness is the work of God... that this holiness was the mind that is in Christ.'

Whitefield likewise, despite his Calvinist stance and aversion to perfectionism, also maintained the goal of holiness. Holiness is rooted for both men in their theological scheme that begins with original sin and ends with eschatology and eternity.



Growing up in love

Ephesians 4-5:20

A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eyes and cheek. A paintbrush with a wooden handle and a head of bristles, some of which are coated in white paint, is applying paint to the person's cheek. The person's eyes are looking directly at the camera. The overall tone is artistic and creative.

**YOU
ARE
GOD'S
CRAFTSMANSHIP.**

(EPH 2:10)

Make every effort

Living a life worthy of the calling

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.



Grace has been given

So we are no longer tossed around

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up **until** we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, **speaking the truth in love**, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



THE RICH MARTIN PODCAST

**APOSTLE, PROPHET,
EVANGELIST,
SHEPHERD & TEACHER.**
*HAS THE CHURCH
UNDERSTOOD
CORRECTLY?*

ALAN HIRSCH



APOSTLES

sent ones
sense of 'sent-ness'
plant the gospel
plant the Jesus story
guardians of the DNA
& ideas that protect
the culture
seeding trans-local
networks

PROPHETS

seeing & hearing & feeling –
responsiveness to God
speaking for God
guardians of the relationship of the
people with God
covenantal guardians (sense of justice)

JESUS

TEACHERS

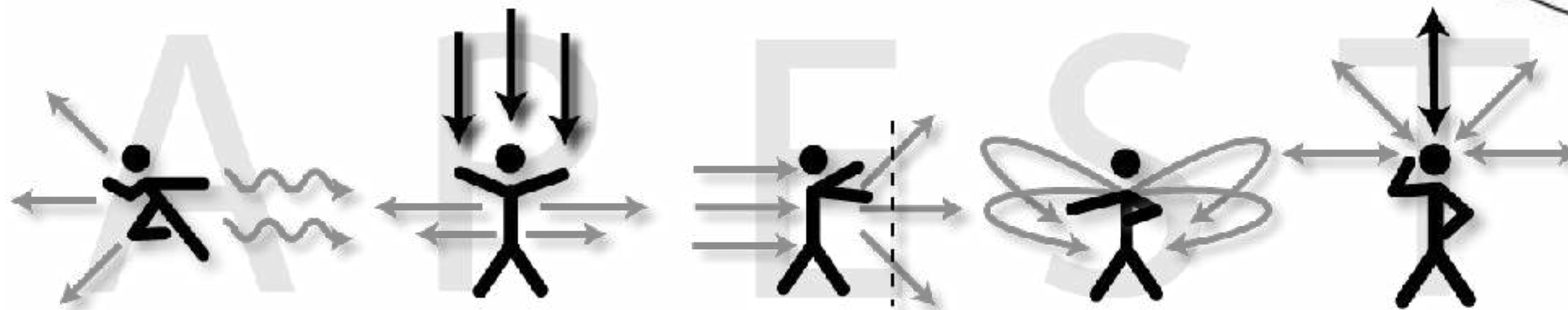
connect the dots others can't see
transfer ideas, knowledge
& wisdom

SHEPHERDS

make (staff)
& protect (rod)
community

EVANGELISTS

recruiters to the cause
recruiters to the movement
the 'sneezers' of God



Maturity means right living... [Chp 4:17-32]

So we are no longer tossed around

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the **futility** of their **thinking**... [17]

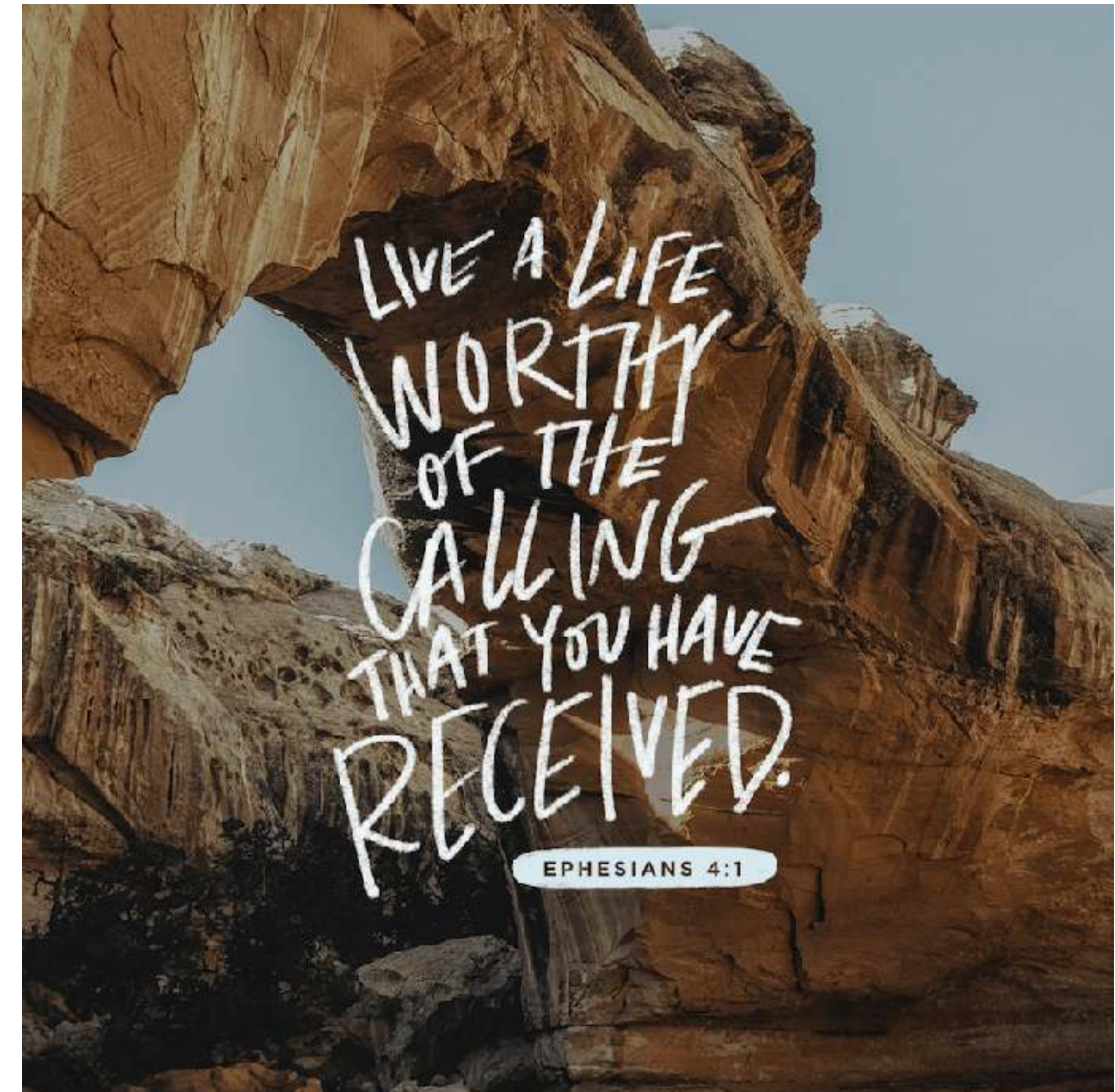
...You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to **put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires**; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. [22-24]

In your **anger** do not **sin** [26]

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths [29]

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption [30]

...**forgiving** each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. [32]



Walk the way of love [Chp 5]

So we are no longer tossed around

there must not be even a hint of:

sexual immorality | impurity | greed | obscenity | foolish talk | coarse joking

No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.
[1-7]

...instead be [continuously] filled with the Spirit [19]

Pay careful attention,
then, to how you
walk — not as
unwise people
but as wise —
making the most of
the time,
because the days
are evil.

Ephesians 5:15-16



A great mystery

Husbands and Wives | The Church
Ephesians 5:21-6:12

Ephesians 5:21-33

“ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her

to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, **just as Christ does the church**— for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” **This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.** However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

”

Ephesians

5.21-33



Tricky because:

Been used to abuse

We don't want the 1950s



Key things to remember:

Critique our culture: It is not perfect

Wrestle with the scripture, but don't discard

Know the context it is written to

At the heart is a calling to submit to each other

For the praise of her glory...
'Great is Artemis of the Ephesians'



Christian Submission is

- **Mutual**
- **Voluntary**
- **Not coerced**
- Our first submission is always **to Jesus**
- Jesus is our **motivation** in our submission to others
- Jesus is our **boundary** in our submission to others



Two Views

Swap the sexes and keep the meaning

Within marriage there is a particular order of leadership

OR...?

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as you do to the Lord

WHAT IT DOES MEAN	WHAT IT DOES <u>NOT</u> MEAN
A voluntary choice	Submission to all men, not men at work or in the church – just in marriage!
In a mutual and equal relationship of love	To a boyfriend
When a husband is leading in a godly way	To a husband who is not first submitting to Jesus
	To be forced, coerced or strongly encouraged to submit
	To be forced to stay in a marriage that is abusive
	That maleness is more important/special & that women cannot lead!

Ephesians 5:21-33

“ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

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”

Loving your local church...

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After all, **no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—** for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” **This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.**

”

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

[NIV]

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FINALLY

**BE STRONG IN THE LORD
AND IN HIS MIGHTY POWER.**

EPH 6:10

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**PUT ON THE FULL ARMOUR OF
GOD, SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE
YOUR STAND AGAINST THE
DEVIL'S SCHEMES.**

EPH 6:11

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FOR OUR STRUGGLE IS NOT
AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT
AGAINST THE RULERS, AGAINST THE
AUTHORITIES, AGAINST THE
POWERS OF THIS DARK WORLD AND
AGAINST THE SPIRITUAL FORCES OF
EVIL IN THE HEAVENLY REALMS.

EPH 6:12

THEREFORE PUT ON THE FULL
ARMOUR OF GOD, SO THAT
WHEN THE DAY OF EVIL
COMES, YOU MAY BE ABLE
TO STAND YOUR GROUND,
AND AFTER YOU HAVE DONE
EVERYTHING, TO STAND.

COLOR ELEMENT

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EPH 6:13



Code: 1000
Description: A4 20P LITE ACRYLIC LET STAND INC BLACK CASE
Box No: 100 of 500 © RICHARD LYALL
PS No: 29154
Unit:

STAND FIRM THEN,
WITH THE BELT OF TRUTH
BUCKLED AROUND YOUR WAIST,
WITH THE BREASTPLATE OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS IN PLACE,

EPH 6:12

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☐ Commercial Package

Sender's Name & Address

AND PRAY IN THE SPIRIT ON
ALL OCCASIONS WITH ALL
KINDS OF PRAYERS AND
REQUESTS. WITH THIS IN
MIND, BE ALERT AND
ALWAYS KEEP ON PRAYING
FOR ALL THE LORD'S PEOPLE.

EPH 6:18

Case: ASS15-007
Description: A4 28P LITE ACRYLIC LIT STAND INC BLACK CASE
Box No: 168 500 ©RICHARD EYALL
PS No: 20154

**PRAY ALSO FOR ME, THAT
WHENEVER I SPEAK, WORDS
MAY BE GIVEN ME SO THAT
I WILL FEARLESSLY MAKE
KNOWN THE MYSTERY OF
THE GOSPEL,**

EPH 6:19

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Description: A4 28P LITE ACRYLIC LIT STAND INC BLACK CASE
Box No. 68 500 ©RICHARD LYALL
PO No. 20154
Qty/Box 1 Unit
Country of Origin: China

FOR WHICH I AM AN
AMBASSADOR IN CHAINS.
PRAY THAT I MAY DECLARE
IT FEARLESSLY, AS I SHOULD.

EPH 6:20

Postnet Service
Customs Declaration
May be opened only by
Postnet Service

See Instructions on Reverse

CN 22

Customs Declaration CN 22 — Sender's Declaration

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Sender's Name & Address

☐ Commercial sample