

“From Lost to Rooted”

Sermon

Luke 15:11-32; Ephesians 3:14-21

March 18, 2018

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Congregational Study “Christian” (Week 6)

- 1) God is in control of the abilities and reputation of all people in heaven and on earth.

“With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding. If he tears down, none can rebuild; if he shuts a man in, none can open... He makes nations great, and he destroys them; he enlarges nations, and leads them away.” *Job 12:13–14, 23*

- 2) No one is able to live up to the law of God.

God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one *Psalms 53:2–3*

- 3) If we are to live the life of a Christian, we need Christ to dwell in our hearts.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: *Romans 3:21–22*

- 4) To truly believe and understand something, you must live it.

Then Job replied to the Lord... “Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know... My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.” *Job 42:1, 3, 5–6*

- 5) Christians seek to believe and understand Christ’s love.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father... so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. *Ephesians 3:14, 17–19*

- 6) Christians seek to believe and understand love.

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:8