



The Main Thing

Walking with Jesus Together
Ephesians 3:14-21

Have you ever heard the phrase, “Keep the main thing the main thing.”? This is an important thing to keep in mind with so many things in life. The challenging part with living this phrase out, is that we easily allow distractions to pull us away from the main thing. We do this in our own personal lives, but also in the church. When we don’t keep the main thing the main thing in the church, we allow outside voices and lower level issues divide us. Jesus must be the main thing, in each of our lives, but also in our church.

As our church begins a new season and transition, it’s important for us to be reminded of what this is really all about. Jesus set up the church for us and it’s ultimately about Him. When He’s the main thing, everything else falls into place. For the first few weeks we are going to look at John 15, and what this can look like in our own lives. Then, we will look at some writings in the early church, and what it can look like for us as a church community to “keep the main thing the main thing.”

Vintage Church, we must walk with Christ together. Pray for each other to grow with Christ.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Main Passage:

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Questions for Group:

- Why is love such an important thing? On the surface, we don't need it to survive. Yet it is the subject of so many pieces of media; whole industries revolve around it; and people give their lives for it.
- In the Bible, there are many different stances that people take in prayer, such as standing, sitting, and raising their hands. What does it mean to you that Paul describes his prayer posture as bending his knees?
- What do you think Paul means when he prays that "Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith"? How is this different from simply believing in Jesus?
- In verse 17, Paul says believers should be "rooted and grounded in love." What do you think these two images communicate?
- Why do you think Paul emphasizes that we comprehend Christ's love "with all the saints"? What does this tell us about experiencing God's love as the Church?

- At Vintage we say “we are a movement of truth, love, and community.” How can we as a church make sure our love looks like Christ’s love?
- What would it look like to have this love throughout the global church?
- Verse 19 says that Paul wants believers to be “filled with all the fullness of God.” What do you think this means in the context of the whole passage?
- Is there a brother or sister in Christ who has shown you the type of love this passage talks about?
- Are there any new areas that you are releasing to Jesus? Do you feel like you were able to release the areas you brought up in prior weeks?
- What are some areas where you are seeking to abide with Jesus? Were you able to abide with Jesus last week?