

“Rooted in the soil of His love”

Ephesians 3:14-21

- *The focus in the NT is on the individual but NEVER apart from the community.*
- *The main witness to Christ is NOT the individual but the community.*
- *Leadership is always plural – there are no stars – and leaders are never just “doers”, but “equippers”.*
- *The community can only be strong and a solid witness to Christ as EACH part learns to serve others.*

1. The soil of God’s love alone fills us with God’s fullness. [Eph. 3:17-19]

Other soils lead to emptiness:

- The soil of shame
- The soil of success/achievement
- The soil of human approval
- The soil of money
- The soil of good feelings, times and circumstances

Signs of the emptiness:

- *Constantly looking for approval*
- *Self-critical*
- *Defined by externals*
- *Addictive tendencies*
- *Critical of others*
- *Difficulty in relationships*
- *Never at peace, constantly driven*

2. We must learn to hear His voice calling us His Beloved. [cf. Eph. 1-2]

“The great turning point in your life comes not when you realize that you love God, but when you fully accept the fact that He unconditionally loves you.” Anthony de Mello

“Being the beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence.” Henri Nouwen

