

Hello! I'm Nohemi Flores from Pomona and Los Angeles, California. My church is Iglesia de Cristo Sion, CoB (E-gle-cia, Creesto, See-on) in Glendora, California. I am a Youth Leader, Worship Leader and Music Director. I'll be doing Today's Bible Study.

Today's Bible Study is based on Colossians 2:5-7.

We will be seeing it in the New King James version.

"For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

Let's imagine the Apostle Paul writing these words in a very far place from Colosse where the Colossians live, specifically in a prison cell. He is writing to them by saying you may not see me in person, but I am there in my spirit. What did he mean by saying that?

When Paul was writing about being there in spirit, he was able to hear from someone about how they were doing. He expresses how happy he is for them to have good order along with their attitude for working well with one another, supportive of others, and how they contribute by trusting their faith in Jesus Christ. Wouldn't you like to work and support one another? Let's think of a few ways we can do that.

Paul asks us to walk in Him by following in his footsteps of ministry. He healed, taught, and disciplined with his words and actions because he is Love. We must know how to love and give peace to those who need it. Paul tells us as we have been taught and abounding in it with thanksgiving, we must do these three actions by being rooted, built up on, and established in faith.

Let's think about the process of how a tree grows, first it starts as a seed. What comes next? So, it eventually takes 10-20yrs for it to sprout taller than a person. When a tree is rooted, it means it is getting the sun, water, fertilizer and nutrients it needs to grow. Can you take a minute to imagine how you would look as a tree? Do you have flowers, what kind of leaves, are you tall as an oak tree or eucalyptus tree, or as an evergreen tree? When we begin to imagine a person is rooted in the Bible, that person is taking action by willing to serve everyone no matter the cost.

From growing to building, we read that we have to be rooted and built up in Him; so what are we constructing for God? What is the plan of action?

Are we making a list of what we may need? For example: love, patience, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. We are building community, a renewed relationship with God, and a commitment to continue the journey.

When we establish anything it becomes a daily part of our day. When we establish the plan to: exercise, eat healthy, sleep our 6-8 hours, or any goal to help our well-being; we can see the

end result of our hard work. Can you think of something that you can establish? Now to establish faith it could mean to do everything through believing it could be possible. Do you know Philippians 4:13? It says I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. That supernatural strength comes from believing in God who created the universe, He can help equip us and act for His kingdom.

When we do all these three things that we have learned (rooted, built up, and establish faith), so we can receive blessings more than our imagination can dream up. When we start to live with these principles, we can see a change in ourselves, in our family, and community. Let us learn and grow with thanksgiving, so we can what God can do in our lives.