

“Son” Flowers... A Devotional by the members of New Hope Church in Cooper, TX

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Scripture Verse Reference: Ephesians 3:17 ***“And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God’s marvelous love;”***
(TLB)

Roots

As spring neared, I wondered what to do with the two Amaryllis bulbs near my kitchen window. They had bloomed and now dormant. Or so I thought. I noticed the one I took out of the potting soil during dormancy was starting to sprout while the other, still in the potting soil, appeared to be dead. Hearing that rain was on the horizon, I decided to plant both Amaryllis bulbs outside to see if they would take hold and thrive. I dug a hole for each. The bulb that had already sprouted went into its watered hole and covered with dirt first. The second Amaryllis bulb, still in the potting soil, had to be loosened from the pot. As I loosened and eased it out of the pot, I was surprised by its tangled root system winding throughout the soil. I placed it into its watered hole potting soil and all, firmly patting it down with the extra soil.

In just a couple of days, both Amaryllis showed they were thriving in their new environment. Each passing day confirmed the difference in their root systems. The first one, that had already begun to sprout, was having a more difficult time establishing itself. Its root system was not nearly as robust and it did not have the soft nutritious potting soil around it to nurture it along. As for the second one who appeared dead in my window, it has grown each day by leaps and bounds. In fact, it’s bloomed in spectacular fashion while the first one planted has yet to bloom. Oh the difference good roots make!



What a beautiful word picture of spiritual empowerment we can form from Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21. It’s a powerful prayer for others or yourself. Can’t you just picture it in your mind as your roots reach deep into God’s marvelous love as you pray these words.

“When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:14-21 (NLT).

Pray it every day, water it with God’s Word and you too will grow a wide, long, high and deep root system that reaches into God’s marvelous love!