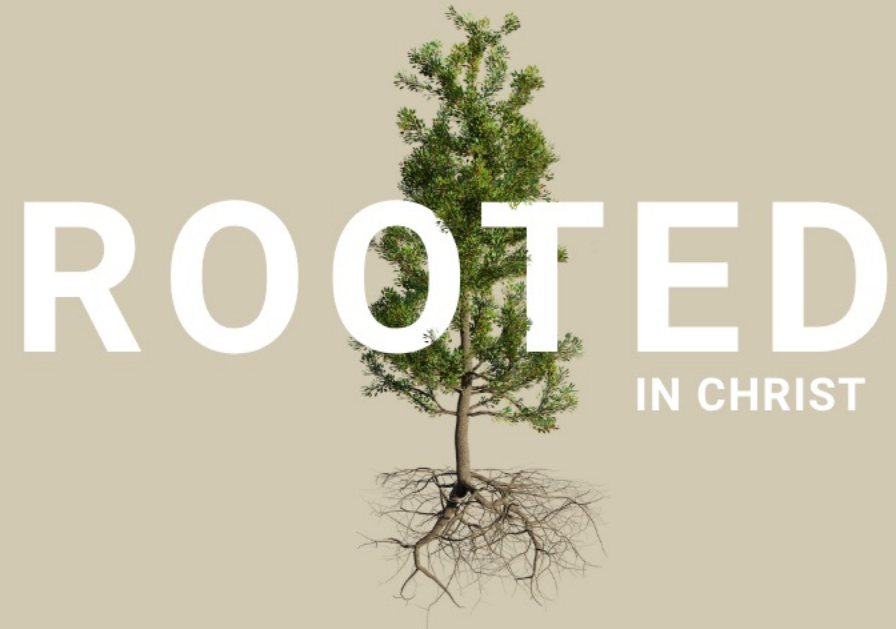




When Rumors Are Good

Colossians 1:1-8

Colossians 1:1

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother.” (ESV)

Colossians 4:18; Galatians 6:11 ROOTED IN CHRIST

“I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.
Remember my chains. Grace be with you.”
(ESV)

“See with what large letters I am writing to
you with my own hand.” (ESV)

Colossians 1:7

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

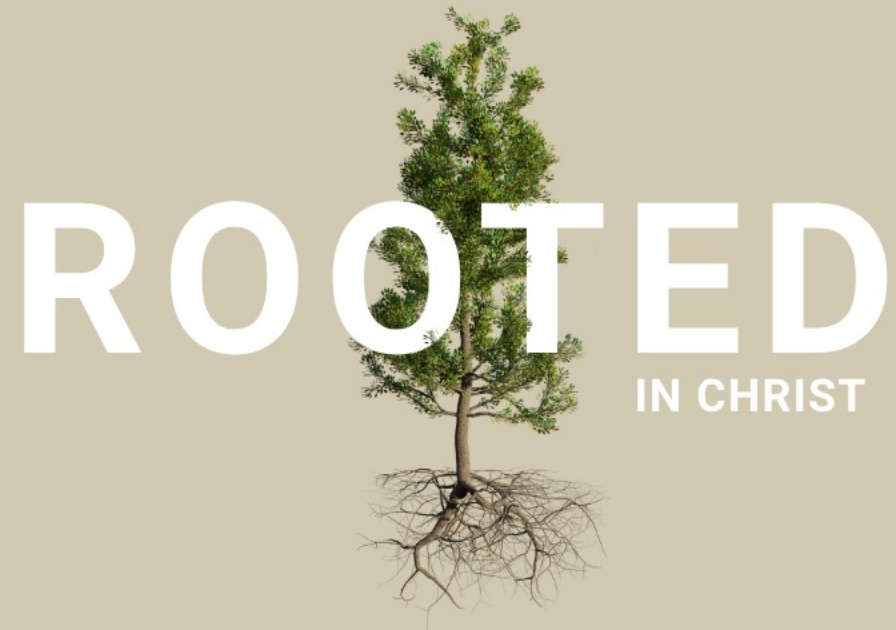
“Just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf.” (ESV)

Learned (*manthanō*)—to learn, understand, and apply.

Chiastic Structure

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- A. We always thank God for you (3)
- B. Filled with faith, love, hope (4-5)
- C. We've heard about you (5-6)
- D. Epaphras our beloved servant (7-8)
- D. He is a faithful minister (7-8)
- C. We've heard about you (9-10)
- B. Filled with endurance, patience, joy (11)
- A. Giving thanks to the father (12)



A reputation for their ...

Distinctive Lifestyle

“To the saints ... in
Christ at Colossae”

(1:2)

"To the Saints ..."

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- **Saints** (*hagios*)
 - Set apart for God, holy, sacred, consecrated, sanctified.

"In Christ ..."

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

(Col 1:13-14, ESV)

Colossians 3:5-7

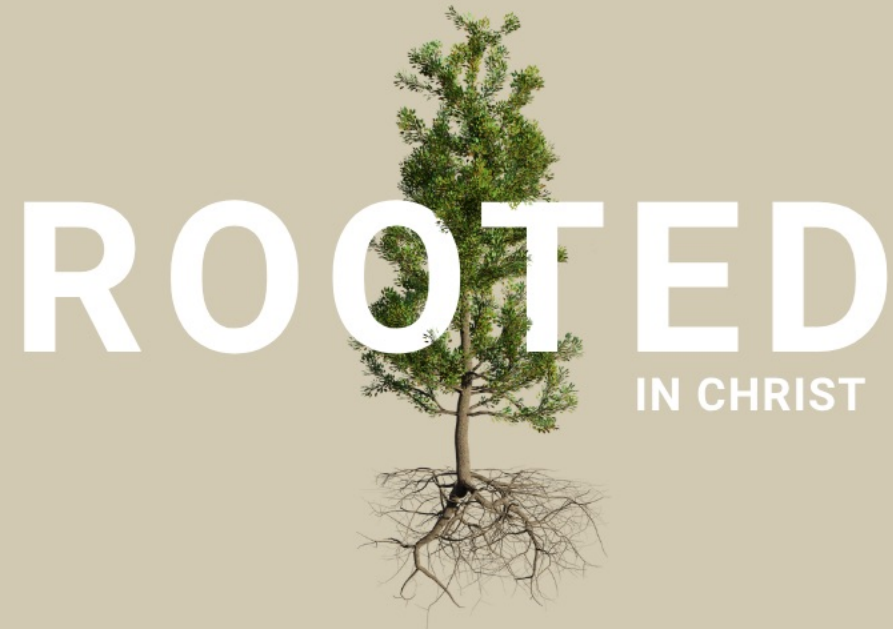
ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.” (ESV)

“In Christ at Colossae”

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- **They were dual residents**
 - Literally, “In Christ in Colossae”



A reputation for their ...

Passionate Faith

“To the saints and
faithful brothers in
Christ at Colossae”

(1:2)

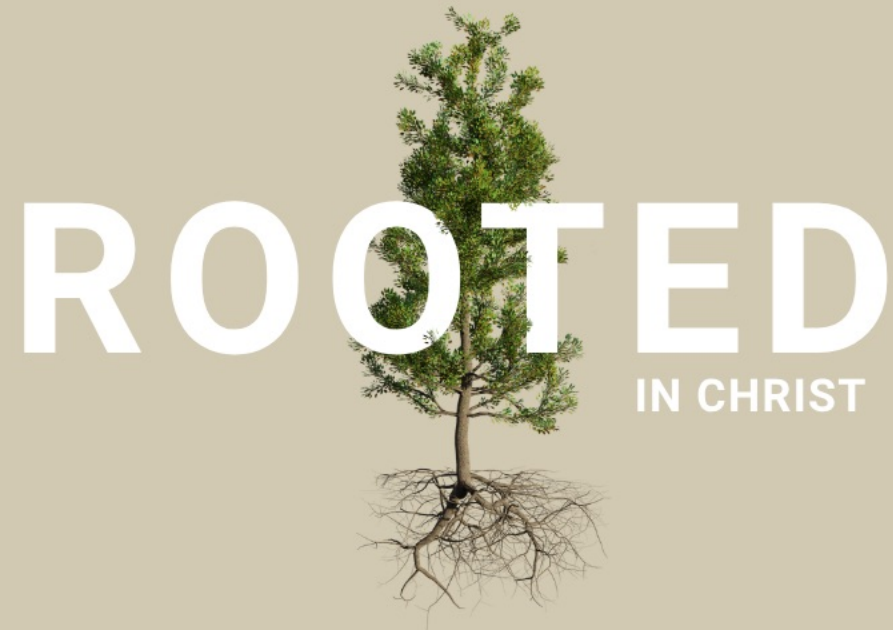
Faithful (*pistos*)

- Used 4x in Colossians
 - Of the Colossian Christians (1:2)
 - Of Epaphras who started the church (1:7)
 - Of Tychicus (4:7) and Onesimus (4:9) who deliver the letter

Colossians 1:4

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Since we have heard of your faith in Christ
Jesus ...” (ESV)



A reputation for their ...

*Add to Your
Printed Outline*

Abiding Love

“Since we have heard
of ... the love that you
have for all the saints”

(1:4)

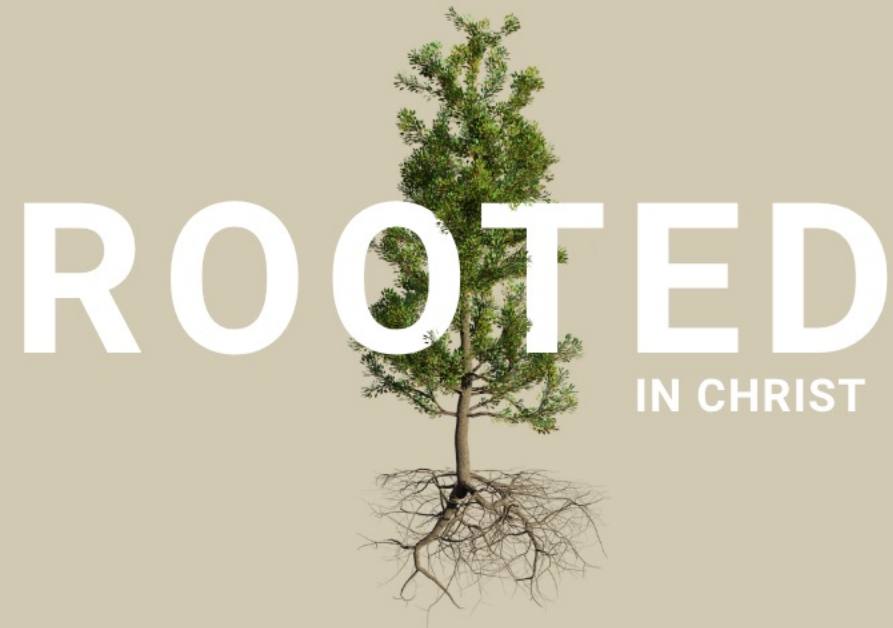
Love (*agāpē*)

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

The highest form of love. Godly love.

It is selfless, sacrificial, and unconditional.

It means choosing to care for the well-being of others without expecting anything back.



A reputation for their ...

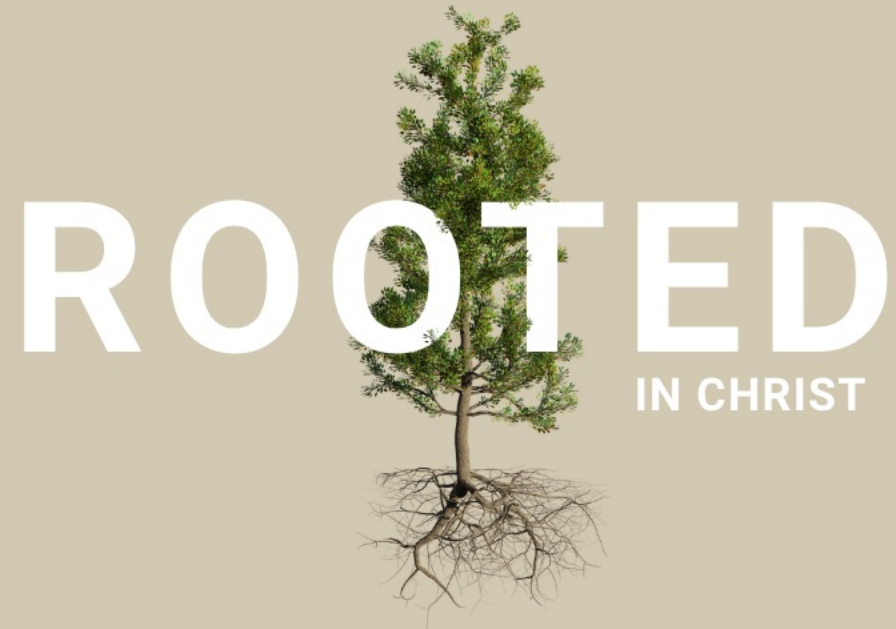
Bearing Fruit & Growing

“The word of truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you” (1:6)

Gene Appel

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Whenever I meet a Christian who isn’t concerned about reaching more lost people and who thinks their church is too big, it’s just a sign to me that they don’t rub shoulders enough with lost people who are going to hell. When you do, God just keeps them right in front of you. It affects how you pray, invite, love, give, preach, and plan church services. Never once in Scripture do we find a church being instructed to pull back, slow down, or be satisfied with past accomplishments because they reached a certain numerical figure.”



A reputation for their ...

Powerful Hope

“Because of the hope
laid up for you in
heaven” (1:5)

1 Peter 1:3-4

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” (ESV)

Hebrews 10:23

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.” (ESV)

Colossians 1:1-5

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of ...”

Colossians 1:5-7

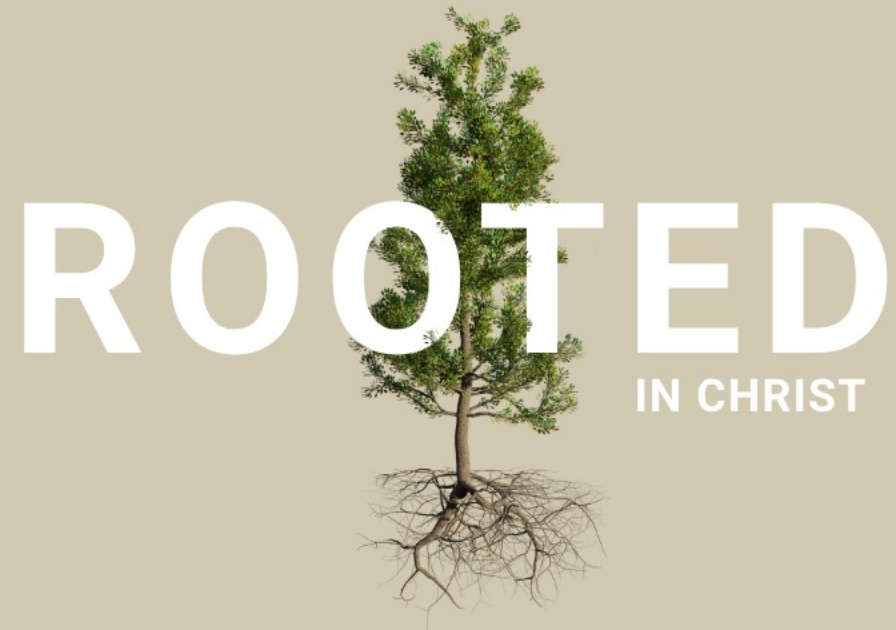
ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from ...”

Colossians 1:7-8

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

“Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.”
(ESV)



When Rumors Are Good

Will you join with God
in accomplishing his
purpose?

Next Steps

ROOTED
IN CHRIST

- I will strive to be known for my faithful pursuit of Christ.
- I will work to be a disciple making disciple.
- I will pray for the faithfulness and fruitfulness of ECC.
- I will commit to thanking _____ for their faithfulness to the gospel.