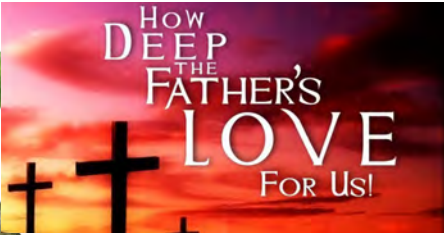




DAY 2 — FRIDAY, 3 APRIL 2026

SESSION 3: GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – THE CROSS: THE DEEPEST ROOT OF LOVE.

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM



Five horizontal lines for writing notes.

Understanding that the "harvest" of God's Word in our lives depends less on the seed and more on the condition of the ground.

THE CROSS AS THE ROOT SYSTEM OF GOD'S LOVE

Every tree stands because of its roots.
Every believer stands because of the Cross.
The Cross is not just an event in history—it is the **root system** of God's love, stretching deeper than sin, deeper than suffering, deeper than death.

Good Friday is not a funeral. It is a revelation.

A revelation of **how deep, how wide, how long, and how high** the love of Christ truly is.

We stand at the foot of the Cross and discover:

The deepest root of love is sacrifice.



1. The Cross reveals the Depth of God's love.
Ephesians 3:16-19,

Paul prays that believers would be **rooted and grounded in love**—but where is that love most clearly seen
At the Cross.

A. Love that strengthens the inner man

- “Strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man.”
- The Cross gives us inner strength because Jesus took our inner brokenness.

B. Love that dwells in our hearts

- Christ dwells in us because He was forsaken for us.
- Matthew 27:46.

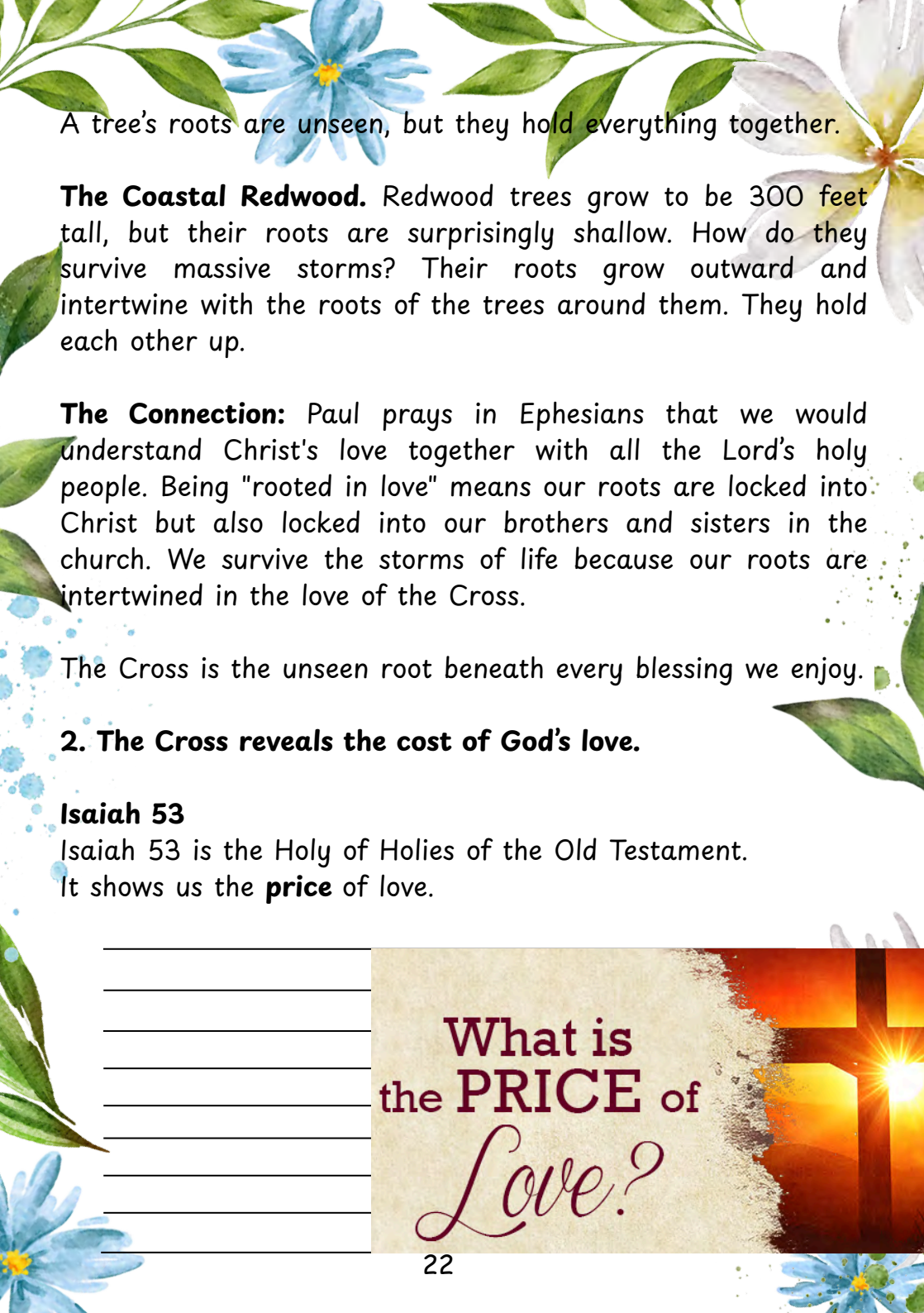
C. Love that surpasses knowledge

- The Cross is not logical—it is supernatural.
- Who dies for enemies
- Who loves the unlovely
- Who embraces the guilty

D. Love that fills us with the fullness of God

The Cross is the doorway into the fullness of God's presence.
Hebrews 10:19-22.





A tree's roots are unseen, but they hold everything together.

The Coastal Redwood. Redwood trees grow to be 300 feet tall, but their roots are surprisingly shallow. How do they survive massive storms? Their roots grow outward and intertwine with the roots of the trees around them. They hold each other up.

The Connection: Paul prays in Ephesians that we would understand Christ's love together with all the Lord's holy people. Being "rooted in love" means our roots are locked into Christ but also locked into our brothers and sisters in the church. We survive the storms of life because our roots are intertwined in the love of the Cross.

The Cross is the unseen root beneath every blessing we enjoy.

2. The Cross reveals the cost of God's love.

Isaiah 53

Isaiah 53 is the Holy of Holies of the Old Testament. It shows us the **price** of love.



What is
the **PRICE** of
Love?

A. Love that suffers

- “He was wounded for our transgressions.”
- Love bleeds.
- Love absorbs pain so others can be healed.

B. Love that carries

- “Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.”
- He carried what crushed us.

1 Peter 2:24.



C. Love that is rejected

- “Despised and rejected of men.”
- He loved those who hated Him.
- He embraced those who abandoned Him.

D. Love that substitutes

- “The Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”
- The Cross is not a tragedy—it is a transaction.
- Jesus took our place so we could take His.

E. Love that finishes the work

- “He shall see the travail of His soul and be satisfied.”
- The Cross is not defeat—it is completion.

John 19:30.

A seed must die before it grows.

Jesus became the Seed that fell into the ground so we could live (**John 12:24**).

The Sacrifice of Maximilian Kolbe. During WWII in the Auschwitz concentration camp, a prisoner escaped. As punishment, the guards picked ten men to starve to death. One man, Franciszek Gajowniczek, cried out for his wife and children. A priest named Maximilian Kolbe stepped forward and said, "I am a Catholic priest. I wish to die for that man." He took the stranger's place in the hunger bunker.

The Connection: Kolbe's love had deep roots. He didn't just say he loved; he "laid down his life." On Good Friday, we remember that Jesus didn't just give us a lecture on love; He gave us His life. He is the original "substitute."



**a seed doesn't
grow into a
plant unless it
dies first.**

1 Corinthians 15:36





3. The Cross reveals the demand of God's love.

John 15:12-13

Jesus moves from revelation to invitation.

He doesn't just show love—He calls us to live it.

A. Love as He loved

- “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”
- The Cross becomes the pattern for Christian love.

B. Love that lays down its life

- “Greater love has no man than this...”
- Love is not emotion—it is sacrifice.
- Love is not convenience—it is commitment.

C. Love that chooses the other's good

- Jesus laid down His life voluntarily.

John 10:17-18.

D. Love that transforms community

- A Cross-shaped church is a powerful church.
- A Cross-shaped believer is a fruitful believer.

Real Life Application:

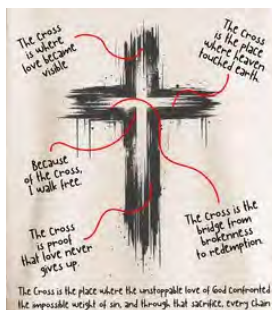
- Forgiving someone who hurt you
- Serving without recognition
- Loving the unlovely
- Giving without expecting
- Standing with the broken

This is Cross-shaped love.

- **The Cross is the deepest root of God's love.**
- **The Cross is the highest expression of God's love.**
- **The Cross is the clearest demonstration of God's love.**
- **The Cross is the eternal invitation into God's love.**

At the Cross...

- Love became visible.
- Love became personal.
- Love became sacrificial.
- Love became victorious.



Let the Cross root you, reshape you, and release you into a life of sacrificial love.

Goals

To Do
