

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at [vbc.online/events](http://vbc.online/events) for more detailed information.  
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting [admin@thecrossing.org](mailto:admin@thecrossing.org).

- Extol: Prayer & Praise - Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm
- Women's Morning of Solitude - Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am
- Cityteam Oakland - Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>
- VBC Winter Basketball Begins - Begins Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> (Registration Open)

### GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!  
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at [www.vbc.online/new-here](http://www.vbc.online/new-here)

### SONGS & SERMONS

"Your Love Never Fails" - Anthony Skinner,  
Chris McClarney

"Freedom" - Valley Bible Worship

"Way Maker" - Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

"Build My Life" - Brett Younker, Karl Martin,  
Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, Matt Redman

"Hosanna" - Brooke Fraser

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" - Helen Howarth  
Lemmel

To listen or watch today's message,  
visit [www.vbc.online/media](http://www.vbc.online/media)

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,434.00  
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$1,790,568.00

Giving Last Week.....\$81,349.00  
Y-T-D Giving.....\$1,911,122.00

Visit [vbc.online/give](http://vbc.online/give) for more info on ways to give.

# HABITS of the HEART

01/05/20 | MUSIC: BEN WONG | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

## MESSAGE NOTES

The power of God & love of Christ: the normal Christian life!  
Ephesians 3:14-21

The pieces & flow of Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21.

1. The object of his prayer -

**Eph. 3:14** *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,*

2. The subject of his prayer -

**Eph. 3:16** *that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17a so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—*

3. The details of his prayer -

**Eph. 3:17b** *—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

4. The confidence of his prayer -

**Eph. 3:20** *Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*



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## The specific issues we must address for Paul's prayer to become a reality.

1. What is our role in being "strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being"?

**2Cor. 4:16** *So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*

2. How does our faith influence Christ "settling down" inside us?

We exercise faith when we . . .

- a. . . . think from the lesser to the greater.

**Matt. 6:30** *But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?*

**Matt. 8:6** *"Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." 7 And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.*

- b. . . . consider God's ability.

**Matt. 9:28** *When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord."*

- c. . . . realize the consequences of not trusting.

**Matt. 13:58** *And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.*

**Matt. 14:31** *Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"*

- d. . . . remember God's prior dependability.

**Matt. 16:8** *But Jesus, aware of this, said, "O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread? 9 Do you not yet perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? 10 Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? 11 How is it that you fail to understand that I did not speak about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."*

- e. . . . maintain our focus on God's promises.

**Luke 8:11** *Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13 And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. 14 And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15 As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.*

All "Habits of the Heart" must focus on the heart & the indwelling Christ!