

# A bridge is constructed to overcome an **OBSTACLE** in your path from where you are to your **DESTINATION**.

<sup>18</sup> 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.

#### **Ephesians 3:18 NLT**

# Why is this bridge so **HARD** to cross?

### Why is this bridge so hard to cross?

# We assume all love is the SANE

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. <sup>6</sup> It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. 7 Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NLT <sup>9</sup> God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup> This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. **1 John 4:9-10 NLT** 

#### Why is this bridge so hard to cross?

## Sometimes God's paths for us are HARD to walk.

<sup>33</sup> "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

### Why is this bridge so hard to cross?

### It is so GREAT it is hard to fully grasp

<sup>19</sup> May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. **Ephesians 3:19A NLT** 

### Why is this bridge so hard to cross?

<sup>17 B</sup> So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. 18 Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.

#### 1 John 4:17в - 18 NLT

## Why crossing this bridge is so IMPORTANT

#### It empowers us.

<sup>16</sup> I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

#### **Ephesians 3:16 NLT**

## It brings God CLOSE

<sup>17</sup> 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.
Ephesians 3:17A NLT

## It gives us strong ROOTS

<sup>17</sup> Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

#### Ephesians 3:17B NLT

#### It helps us deal with

#### the roads we face

<sup>18</sup> 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.

**Ephesians 3:18 NLT** 

# When we personally experience this love then we can **SHARE** it.

<sup>19</sup> May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

#### Ephesians 3:19A NLT

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. **1 John 4:7-8 NLT** 

## It helps us MATURE

<sup>19</sup>Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. **Ephesians 3:19B NLT** 

<sup>35</sup> Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? <sup>36</sup> (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") <sup>37</sup> No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

#### **Romans 8:35-39 NLT**

<sup>38</sup> And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow-not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. <sup>39</sup> No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:35-39 NLT**