



Sunday November 11, 2018
The Father's Love
Part-2 : Immeasurable Love

Introduction

Your revelation of God affects your relationship with God. Your relationship with God also affects your relationship with others.

Our understanding of God's love for us affects how we love God, how we love our own selves and how we love others.

Our love for God deepens as we understand how much He has first loved us.

Our objective in this series on "The Father's Love" is to know and experience the Father's Love. This will change the way we relate to God, to ourselves and to others as well.

Review : Part-1 : Infinite God, Our Heavenly Father

Our Father In Heaven

God's love is unlimited. His love is infinite.

God's love is unconditional.

God is Relational

God Has Made Us The Focus of His Unlimited, Unconditional Love

There was love even before Creation, and there was Creation because of love.

Our capacity to love and receive love is broken.

Wrong postures - wrong mindsets in relating to God:

A) The Prodigal : *to the prodigal He says while you were still a sinner, I loved you*

B) The Slave : *to the slave He says, even before the foundation of the world I planned to have you as my son or daughter*

C) The Orphan : *to the orphan He says, even before I created you, even before you were born I planned to adopt you into my family*

D) The Outcast : *to the outcast, He says I love you so much and want you so near me, I have brought you to sit right next to me*

E) The Proud Elder Brother : *to the proud elder brother, the self-righteous, He says, just receive my love, it is always there.*

F) The Wounded : *to the wounded He says, others have hurt you, but I am too good to do you wrong, too gentle to harm you,*

G) The Self Critical : *to the self-critical He says, I love you because I am love. Don't condemn yourself, because I am not condemning you.*

Restoring Our Capacity To Be Loved



TODAY : Part-2 : Immeasurable Love

The Immeasurable Greatness Of His Love

Ephesians 3:17-19

17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—
19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:17-19 (Amplified Bible)

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through your faith. And may you, having been [deeply] rooted and [securely] grounded in love,
18 be fully capable of **comprehending** with all the saints (God's people) the width and length and height and depth of His love [fully experiencing that amazing, endless love];
19 and [that you may come] to **know [practically, through personal experience] the love of Christ** which far surpasses [mere] knowledge [without experience], that you may be filled up [throughout your being] to all the fullness of God [so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself].

vs 17, we must be deeply rooted (like a tree) and securely grounded (like a building with a strong foundation) in love

Be firm in God's immeasurable love for you.

vs 18-19, The apostle Paul is referring to a "comprehending" and "knowing" of God's love that is personal and experiential, not purely intellectual.

comprehend Greek = to take eagerly, to seize, to possess, to apprehend
know by personal experience

vs 18, God's love is immeasurable in breadth, length, height and depth.

- ✓ His love is as wide as the world: "For God so loved the world" (John 3:16)
- ✓ The length of His love is as far as the farthest one of us has wandered: "All we like sheep have gone astray, but the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6)
- ✓ The depth of His love is as deep as the uttermost, the lowest hell that we have put ourselves in: "He is able to save to the uttermost, those who come to Him" (Hebrews 7:25).
- ✓ His love is as high as the heavens above: He has "raised us up and made us sit together with Him in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6).



- ✓ His love is timeless, enduring, untiring: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3)

The Cross of Jesus Christ- An Expression of God's Immeasurable Love

John 3:16-17

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 4:9-10

9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

The Cross of Jesus Christ, points to the width, the length, the depth and the height of His love for us.

God's love is so wide that it includes every person.

God's love is so long it reaches to the farthest sinner.

God's love is so deep it reaches down to the uttermost place.

God's love is so high it lifts us to God Himself, to His own right hand.

The Cross Restores Our Capacity For Perfect Love

The Lord Jesus died on the Cross not only to demonstrate God's Immeasurable love for us, but He died to make us whole.

Isaiah 53:5

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

peace in Hebrew is "shalom" which simply means wholeness, total well-being.

He extends perfect love to us through the Cross.

He also makes us whole so that we can receive God's perfect love and give away God's perfect love.



When we receive God's immeasurable love expressed through His Son, we are made whole. We realize the great love God has for us and for those around us.

He restores our capacity to receive love and give love.

Because of His Great Love There Is Abundant Mercy And Grace

Ephesians 2:1-7

1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,
2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,
3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.
4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),
6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

because of His great love with which He loved us...

...He is rich in mercy and grace

...He raised us up sit right next to Him

We did not earn our place into God's love.

We are brought into this because of His love, by His mercy and grace.

God's love is expressed through His mercy and grace.

God's mercy is God's compassion, kindness and goodness extended to us that overlooks our past, our wrongs, our messes. Mercy hold back the judgment we deserve.

God's grace is what God gives or does. It is God's riches given to us. Grace give us to us what we do not deserve.

Because of His immeasurable love, God extends mercy and grace to us.

The Story of The Prodigal son

Luke 15:11-32

11 Then He said: "A certain man had two sons.



12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood.

13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living.

14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,

19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." '

20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry;

24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

25 "Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

26 So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'

28 "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

29 So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends.

30 But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

31 "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

32 It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "

The father expressed his love for his son by extending MERCY and GRACE

Mercy - the father forgave all the wrong the son had done - the wasting away of the fortune, dishonor and disrepute to the family, degrading his own personal self, etc.

Grace - the father gave the son what he did not really deserve - a robe, a ring, shoes, and an extravagant party, and the right to be an heir in the house!

If we only turn to Him, we will experience His immeasurable love first hand!



What Does This Reveal To Us About His Immeasurable Love?

When I am in rebellion, He still loves me.

When I am covered with filth and drowned in sin, He still loves me.

When I am broken, wasted and ruined, He still loves me.

When I am at my worst, He still loves me.

Here is love, vast as the ocean! His love exceeds our deepest wickedness, our greatest wanderings, our faithless wonderings, our complete waywardness.

The Love of The Father is beyond measure, revealed to us in His Son Jesus Christ.

The Father loves us with an immeasurable, untiring love.

Out of His immeasurable love He pours out His mercy and grace upon us

Romans 8:32

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Nothing can separate us from His immeasurable love.

Because of His love we are more than conquerors.

MINISTRY TIME
SALVATION CALL



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday November 04, 2018
The Father's Love
Part-2 : Immeasurable Love

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Ephesians 3:17-19; Luke 15:11-32*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1) Why would it be important for us as believers to be "deeply rooted" and "securely grounded" in the Father's immeasurable love for us?

2) God's mercy and grace flows out of His immeasurable love for us. Discuss what we understand by "mercy" and "grace".

3) Picture yourself immersed in God's ocean of love. Write down your thoughts. What does it mean to be loved unconditionally in such immeasurable manner?



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.