

Who Is Jesus? The Gospel of John

December 27th, 2020

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Knowing (Not Just Knowing About) God's Love (John 14:15-31)

Main Point: *Christ helps us know how God loves us and how to love Him back.*

- **How Do I Know God Loves me? And do I Love Him back?**

- **God's Part – He Declares His Love**

Application – Read His love letter (Psalms are a good start).

- **God's Part – He Promises Future Love**

He promises to be with you and in you

He promises to never leave you nor forsake you

He promises to make His home with you

He promises to teach you all things

Application – Become fluent in His promises. Memorize them.

- **God's Part – We Experience His Love**

Application – Pray for the Lord to reveal what He is doing in your life.

- **Our Part – We Love Him Back**

Application – Pray for the Lord to help you treasure His word more.

Hosea 2:19-20 – ¹⁹ “I will betroth you to Me forever; yes I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, in lovingkindness and in compassion, ²⁰ and I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then to you will know the Lord.”

2Cor 6:16, Jer 32:38, Heb 8:10, Lev 26:12, Ex 6:7 (among others) - “I will be your God, and you shall be My people.”

John 14:15-31 – ¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit

of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

¹⁸ “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”

²¹ Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “***If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.*** ²⁴ Whoever does not love Me does not keep My words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent Me.”

²⁵ These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on Me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded Me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.”

Eph 1:13-14 – ¹³ In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

For Further Thought and Discussion:

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this sermon? What didn't you understand?

2. Do you know God loves you? Is there anything about God's love that you are uncertain about or skeptical of? What would you say if you were asked by a friend who isn't a Christian (yet)?
3. Do you love God back? Is there anything about your love for God in return that you are uncertain about or skeptical of? What would you say to that same friend?

Going Deeper:

4. Why does mutual love involve mutual declarations of love? How does God declare His love for you? How do you declare your love for Him?
5. Why does mutual love also involve the mutual making promises? According to John 14:15-31, out of His love for you, what promises does God make to you? And out of mutual love for Him what promises to you make to Him? Why are promises of future love so important?
6. Which of the promises from John 14:15-31, were you familiar with and which ones were new to you? Which one strikes you as particularly important to you today? How would you explain it to a friend who isn't a Christian yet?
7. Why does mutual love involve seeing promises being kept? How does the Lord keeping His promise to send the Holy Spirit to live with us and in show us just how much He loves us?
8. Since "keeping" His Word means to guard it like treasure, how is "keeping His Word" related to "being doers and not just hearers" (James 1:22)?

Application:

9. When have you known how relentless, redemptive, and overwhelming God's love is for you? Why do we love Him back?
10. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?