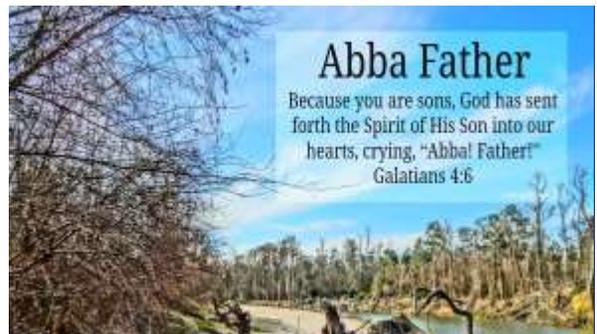


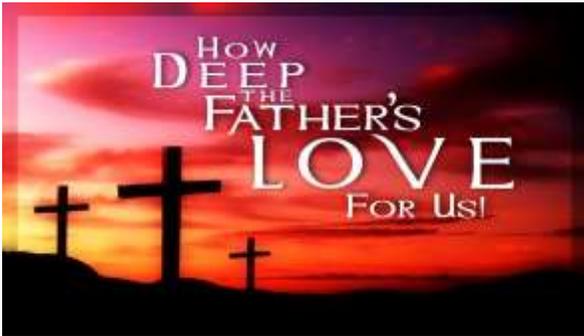
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FATHER'S LOVE

¹³ Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the **Father**, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the **Father** had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God ... **John 13:1-3 (ESV)**

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the **Father** except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my **Father** also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the **Father**, and it is enough for us."⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the **Father**. How can you say, 'Show us the **Father**'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the **Father** and the **Father** is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the **Father** who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the **Father** and the **Father** is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

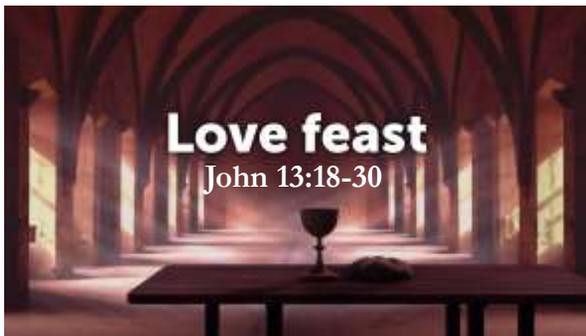
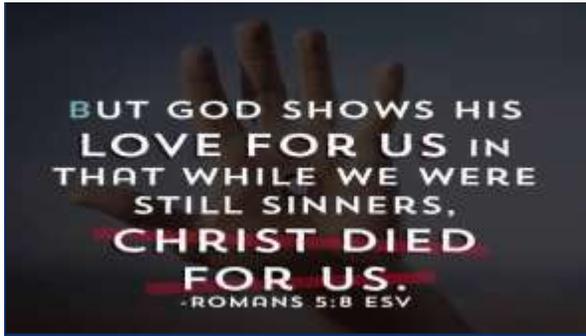
¹² "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the **Father**. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the **Father** may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. 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. **John 14:6-16 (ESV)**





Out of the 37 times that the word "love" appeared in the Gospel of John, 20 times or more than 50% of the occurrences appeared in the context of the last night He spent on earth with His disciples. Christ gave the command to love one another in this context.





God loves
YOU
 so much...
 always has, always will.

My Response to God's Love

A. Receive God's GIFT of love.

"Whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16b).

B. Love GOD in return.

"We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

"may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God"

(Eph.3:18, 19)

"The love of Christ is 'broad' enough to encompass all mankind, 'long' enough to last for eternity, 'deep' enough to reach the most degraded sinner, and 'high' enough to exalt him to heaven." *John Stott*

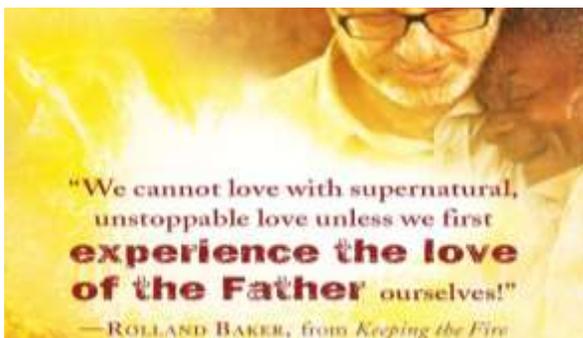
To "know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you would be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

It is not enough just to "know" his love in our heads - we need to experience his love that surpasses knowledge. We get this knowledge through the power of the Holy Spirit.



John Wesley on God's Love

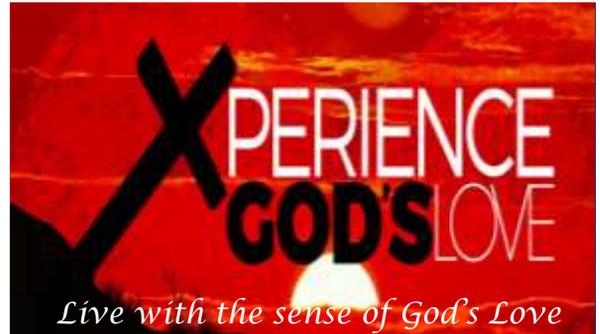
"A perfection far beyond a bare freedom from sin. **God did not have to give us experiences of His love.** He could have forgiven like a judge and just let us go on. But **He longs to have relationship with us** so He reveals His love in ways **no words or mind can encompass.**"



"Just **as** I have loved you, you also should love one another."

The preposition **AS** here does not mean "as well" or "since." Jesus is not saying I love you, so you should love each other. The word **AS** here carries with it the meaning "**IN LIKE MANNER.**"

It is those who learn to **enjoy his love**, who reckon on it, rejoice in it, feel the warmth of it and remind themselves of it; those are the ones who become **magnetized with his love**. That kind of dramatic, life-changing love is authentic Christian love, **changed by the love of Christ**. That is what Jesus means by "as I have loved you."



EXPERIENCING MORE OF THE FATHER'S LOVE 2018

1. **SEE IT.**

I must open my eyes to the wonder of His love. "BEHOLD, what manner of love the Father has bestwed on us ..." (1 John 3:1)

2. **FEEL IT.**

I must open my emotion to God's love.

3. PURSUE IT.

I must open my heart for the touch of God's love.

God's Love for us is UNCONDITIONAL! But if you really, truly want to experience God's Love, you need to reach out for it, grab it, and hold on to it! Spend lots of time with God – just to enjoy Him and let Him enjoy you. Woo Him, court, seek, pursue, wait on, enjoy Him.

4. ASK FOR IT.

I must open my heart to receive and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

"God's Love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Rom. 5:5)

5. GIVE IT.

I must open my hands to let the love of God flow through me.

EXPERIENCING
God's Love

*Live with the sense
of the Father's Love*

