Godly Love

**The Bible tells us God loves us: “**God so loved the world thatHe gave His onlySon, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.” Jn. 3:16

“For the mountains may move and the hills disappear, but even then my faithful love for you will remain. My covenant of blessing will never be broken,” says the Lord, who has mercy on you.”

Isaiah 54:10

“But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Rom. 5:8

“For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With His love, He will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.” Zeph. 3:17

**The Bible also tells us God is love:** “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 Jn. 4:7-8

**God is also the source of love:** “We love Him because He first loved us. 1 Jn. 4:19.

Here is a beautiful definition of love that reveals many aspects of God’s love toward us: We are told, “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” 1 Cor. 13:4-8

It is clear in the Bible that we have done nothing to deserve God’s perfect love: “But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” Ro. 5:8

**Our challenge is to: Accept God’s great love.** “God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”

Eph. 2:8-9

**Experience His love in our lives for eternity as He tells us in**

**Jn. 3:16.** “God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”

It has taken me quite a while to feel that true heartfelt love for God. Wherever you currently find yourself as far as your desire to feel Godly love, perhaps you may find some of the following suggestions helpful.

**Reflect back and begin to recall all of the wonderful ways God has** **blessed you over time.** Even what you may consider a small blessing counts. Your recollection could also include prayers He has answered and some He may not have answered in order to protect you or lead you to something better than you thought you wanted for yourself. How could we not feel great love for a God who has blessed us in so many ways?

**Meditate on Bible verses that touch your heart.** Some verses lend themselves to waking up our imagination and immersing ourselves in the various scenarios that are taking place within the Bible. We can imagine how we would feel if we were there with those men and women at the time. It can also be helpful to mull the verse over and over like a cow chews his cud. It is about quality, not quantity. There are Apps. and YouTube videos that can be helpful for learning how to memorize verses as well.

*Keep in mind, it is always nice to memorize verses, but sometimes depending on the situation one verse that is truly meaningful and heartfelt can surpass a few verses that we can simply recite.*

**Music can also be a wonderful way to connect with our hearts.** For more details on this please see **Passion for God—Softening Our Hearts** in the **GRASP** part of my course and go to **Music**