



Spiritual needs can't be satisfied with temporary things.

- The void within can only be satisfied by God.

37 On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me!

38 Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, "Rivers of living water will flow from his heart."

39 (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.) John 7:37-39 (NLT)

Being loved can be masked in things like:

- Our need for acceptance.
- Our desire to be validated.
- Our longing to be valued.
- Our hope to be wanted.

In our pursuit for love:

- We look to the opinions of others for acceptance.
- We strive to fit in, so we feel wanted.
- We make people our pursuit rather than God.

4 Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)

You never know God is all you need until God is all you have.

Why do we Chase other things:

- We're looking for a feeling, rather than a fact.

16 We know how much God loves us because we have felt his love and because we believe him when he tells us that he loves us dearly. God is love, and anyone who lives in love is living with God and God is living in him. 1 John 4:16 (TLB)

- We want to define love, rather than have love define us.

9 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.

10 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)

- We don't really understand God's love.

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

17 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.

18 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.

19 May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Ephesians 3:16-19 (NLT)

To experience God's love:

- Make Him your greatest priority.

Ephesians 3:17a (NLT)

- Do life with Him.

Ephesians 3:17b(NLT)

- Get to know Him.

Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

25 ... I'll call nobodies and make them somebodies; I'll call the unloved and make them beloved. Romans 9:25 (MSG)

9 For he satisfies the thirsty soul and fills the hungry soul with good. Psalm 107:9 (TLB)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- Why do you think love is such an alluring carrot we chase?
- What does this statement mean to you: "Spiritual needs can't be satisfied with temporary things?"
- Read John 7:37 -39; Is Jesus talking about "Water" that quenches our thirst? What is He talking about?
- Discuss the points under the sub-heading - "Why we chase other things".
- In your own words, how would you describe God's love to someone who is experiencing this void in their life?
- What is the best way, you have found, to expand your knowledge of God's love?
- Read Ephesians 3:16-19; What does Paul say helps us know God's love?

Connection Group Leaders: Remind your group of the following announcements:
Newbie Lunch: April 30th **Bring a Friend BBQ:** May 7th

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