



From: God

"You shall be holy to me, for I the Lord am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine." Leviticus 20:26

● Our understanding of God's love gives us **strength** for life.

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. 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. 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 3:17-19 (NLT)

Your God is present among you, a strong Warrior there to save you. Happy to have you back, he'll calm you with his love and delight you with his songs. Zephaniah 3:17 (MSG)

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)

● God never **gives up** on you.

"A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. "A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. "When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant." "So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.' "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began. Luke 15:11-24 (NLT)

3 elements of sin:

- A desire for **independence.**
- A demand for instant **gratification.**
- A desire for the father to be **dead.**

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Romans 3:23

God's love for you:

● God loves you enough to **let you leave.**

"My wayward children," says the Lord, "come back to me, and I will heal your wayward hearts." Jeremiah 3:22

This is how the LORD responds: "If you return to me, I will restore you..." Jeremiah 15:19 (NLT)

● God loves you even when you break His **heart.**

The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. So the Lord was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. Genesis 6:5-6

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8

● God loves you and never stops **thinking** about you.

So he (*the son*) returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. Luke 15:20

How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! Psalm 139:17-18 (NLT)

● God loves you and wants to **restore** you.

...and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant. Luke 15:19
I have sinned against both heaven and you.. Luke 15:19

But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. Luke 15:22

As children of God we have:

No More Sin (He forgave us) - Act 2:38

No More Shame (He covers us with Christ) - Galatians 3:26

No More Condemnation (Doesn't accuse us and doesn't allow anyone to accuse us) - Romans 8:1

No Restitution to be Made (The Cross does this) - Romans 4-5

No More Sadness (Hope of Heaven - "Rejoice Always") - 1 Thessalonians 5:16

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are. 1 John 3:1



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- How would you describe the strength God's love gives you?
- Why is growing in God's love important for us?
- What does it mean to you that God never gives up on you?
- Discuss the three elements of sin and how they affect us experiencing God's love.
- What does it mean that God loves you enough to let you leave?
- Do you ever consider that your choices can grieve God (or break His heart)? What does it say about God's love that He loves us even when we break His heart?
- What do God's thoughts about you mean to you? How does that give you strength?
- What does it mean for God to restore us? How does this express His love for us?

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Opportunities to experience community:

Our Eggs are Empty!

We appreciate your help in providing candy. (Please no peanut butter or chocolate)

Easter is Coming
Kid's are hungry!



Deadline:
March 24th

Drop off candy
in the lobby.



Today's Talk..



God Never Gives Up On Us

Sunday, February 25th, 2024

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your "Next Steps, give
online and much more.