

Discipleship Group

Honor God ...
Make Disciples

November 27, 2016 - Thank You Notes Part 4

Big Idea

Our view of God is skewed and distorted often because of relationships here on earth.” We often let earthly experiences influence how we view God, instead of letting God influence our perspective on this life. The good news is, when we change our perspective to see God accurately, our relationship with Him has the opportunity to grow. We can accept Him as our Father who loves us relationally, sacrificially, extravagantly, and eternally. God’s love for us is also extravagant, which is depicted in the parable by how the father lavished gifts on the prodigal son, rather than shaming his foolish actions. He pours out blessing on us that we do not deserve. And God’s love for us is eternal. There is nothing we could ever do that would change the way He loves us. With confidence in these truths, let’s approach our loving Father boldly, receive His love for us, and, in turn, point others to Him by displaying relational, sacrificial, extravagant, eternal love.

Get Started

““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 15:20–24, NLT)

Discussion Questions

1. Think about this statement by A.W. Tozer: "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." What comes into your mind when you think about God? How is that reflected in your relationship with Him? Share ways your earthly experiences have affected your view of God.

2. God's love for us is relational, sacrificial, extravagant, and eternal. Talk about a time when God's love impacted your life. What did you learn about God in that situation? Explain how it changed your view of Him.
3. Knowing the characteristics of God's love, discuss practical ways you can show that love to people around you. How can your personal experience of His love encourage others?

Prayer

Thank God for His amazing love for you. Ask Him to show you any ways in which you've allowed your circumstances to define your view of Him, and pray that He would give you an accurate perspective of Himself as your Father. Ask Him to help you receive His love. Pray that God will show you opportunities to share His love with others.

Pray for your group and how God would use you as a group to reach people during the Christmas Season.

Encourage your group to join us for all church prayer on the third Saturday of every month from 6-7 PM at the church. .