



Hosea

“So I bought her for myself . . .”

bought . . . redeemed

“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price”

1 Corinthians 6:19–20

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law”

Galatians 3:13

“For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son . . . “

John 3:16

Have you given this fact much thought in the last few days?

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love**.
⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God **sent** his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

1 John 4:7–9

What does it mean to “know God”?

Have you recently demonstrated your love for a brother?

do as I do

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Eph. 5:25 (ESV)

Discipline is Love

⁵ . . . “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

Hebrews 12:5–6 (ESV)

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2–4 (ESV)

Discipline is Love

Sometimes trials will be used for correcting our thinking or for strengthening or refining our character.

What trials have produced important corrections in your thinking about Jesus, salvation, God's sovereignty, etc?

How has your character benefitted as a result of a particular trial?

Discipline is Love

**What event(s) in your life seriously challenged your faith;
caused you to question God's goodness?**

**Do you allow a mature Christian friend to walk alongside of
you during challenging times?**

Discipline is Love

Sometimes trials will be used to expose sin in order to encourage repentance and restoration.

Has there been a time(s) in your life when you sensed or knew you were drifting away from God?

Are there idols (distractions. diversions) in your life right now that are compromising your faith?

Discipline is Love

How can we discern whether or not God's silence is meant to refine us or restore us?

Discipline is Love

- ⁸ “Behold, I go forward, but he is not there, and backward, but I do not perceive him;
⁹ on the left hand when he is working, I do not behold him; he turns to the right hand,
but I do not see him.
¹⁰ But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.
¹¹ My foot has held fast to his steps; I have kept his way and have not turned aside.
¹² I have not departed from the commandment of his lips;
I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food.
¹³ But he is unchangeable, and who can turn him back? What he desires, that he does.
¹⁴ For he will complete what he appoints for me, and many such things are in his mind.

Job 23:8–14 (ESV)

Discipline is Love

**How does knowing that God has a plan for your life
change the way you walk through trials?**

**How does knowing God's goal is refinement – not
punishment – change the way you walk through trials?**

God is Love

The love that motivated God to send His Son into the world to redeem us so we would be His sons and daughters is the same love that draws us to Him every day through the “trials of various kinds” He allows in our lives.

daily prayer

We ought to pray each day to be

“filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”