

# Promise #1: God Loves You

## 2 Peter 1:1-9

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."  
John 3:16 (NIV)*

### I. How can God love me...PERSONALLY?

*"God loves each of us as  
if there were only one of us."  
Attributed to St. Augustine*

#### 1. Jesus' whole mission focused on finding ME AND YOU.

*[Jesus] "For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." Luke 19:10 (NLT)*

#### 2. You don't see many sheep acts...but God loves us anyway.

*[Jesus] "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it?" Luke 15:4 (NLT)*

#### 3. God doesn't just love...HE IS LOVE.

*"But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love." 1 John 4:8 (NLT)*

*"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. 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)*

### II. God's love transforms us over time (if we STAY CLOSE TO HIM).

#### 1. Vine & Branch 101

*[Jesus] "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in Me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NLT)*

#### 2. From Son of Thunder to Disciple of Love

*"...James and John (the sons of Zebedee, but Jesus nicknamed them ('Sons of Thunder'))..." Mark 3:17 (NLT)*

#### 3. Its a long way to the top if you really want to love.

*"But the people of the village did not welcome Jesus because He was on His way to Jerusalem. When James and John saw this, they said to Jesus, 'Lord, should we call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But Jesus turned and rebuked them." Luke 9:53-55 (NLT)*

### III. Yes, Jesus loves ME.

#### 1. God didn't just say He loved us...He showed us.

*"But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, He will certainly save us from God's condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of His Son while we were still His enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of His Son." Romans 5:8-10 (NLT)*

#### 2. When in doubt, look at THE CROSS. It was a CHOICE and it was for YOU.

*"He [Jesus] Himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world." 1 John 2:2 (NLT)*

#### 3. What do you need from God today?

*"You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)*