



## Connect Discussion Guide

05.01.22 Message | Andrew Kovar | Romans 5:1-8

### Key Scriptures:

*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

- Romans 5:6–8

*Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.*

- John 15:13

*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins...But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

- 1 Corinthians 15:17, 20

*He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

- Colossians 1:13–14

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- Romans 8:38–39

*By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us...*

- 1 John 3:16

### Message Highlights:

- Whether we're conscious of it or not, the question on our hearts and minds is our worth and value to God.
- Here's how we know that God loves you: Love proves itself with actions.
- Jesus died to prove that he loves you; Jesus rose again to prove that he loves you.
- Our own failures, flaws and difficult circumstances can be obstacles to experiencing God's love.
- When we doubt whether or not God loves us, all we need to do is look to the cross and the empty tomb.

**Conversation Starter:**

Do you have an item or object of special value to you because of who gave it to you or what you sacrificed to get it? In what ways is the value of something determined by what someone is willing to give up for it?

**Discuss the Message:**

1. How have you effectively “passed a note to God,” asking him if he loves you?
2. What are some of your failures and flaws that pose obstacles to believing God’s love for you?
  - a) How is God actually using those failures and flaws to draw you closer to him?
  - b) What do you do when you don’t truly feel the immense value God has placed on you as his child?
3. How does Jesus’ sacrifice “at the right time” encourage you in the things you are waiting on from the Lord?
4. The value of something is what someone is willing to pay to call it their own; what was Christ willing to pay to call you his own?
  - a) What do Christ’s actions tell you about your own worth?
  - b) You aren’t the one who decides your worth; how does this bring you freedom as you view yourself through God’s eyes and not your own?
5. Have you prayed a, “Dad, what was that for?!” prayer in the midst or after a difficult situation?
  - a) In some of those same situations, how have you seen God inviting you to trust him that he will remain faithful and keep his promises?

**Pray:**

*Father God, we are humbled that you chose to die for us, proving your love for us, while we were still sinners. We confess that we allow our own failures, flaws and difficult circumstances to blur our understanding of your love for us. Thank you for your steadfastness and your faithfulness, which allows us to turn away from doubt and to fully trust that your love for us is true, pure and everlasting. It’s in your son Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.*