

### Rooted in God's Love Pastor Tony Simoncini

# God IS love and therefore we MUST K N O W and U N D E R S T A N D God's love.

### God loves me if I \_

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

EPHESIANS 3:16-19 NIV

### You don't <mark>EARN</mark> Christ dwelling in your heart... It's a <mark>FREEGIFT</mark>.

"The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a sunhouse does not attract the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it."

### **Understanding God's Love for Me**

### We must be C O M M I T T E D to the R O O T I N G P R O C E S S of God's love.

"...So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in LOVE..."

**EPHESIANS 3:17 NIV** 



"If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple."

LUKE 14:26 NIV

"God has given us things to use and people to love—we sin when we use people and love things."

AUGUSTINE

### 2 We need the POWER OF God to GRASP the love of God.

"...May have **POWER**, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how **wide** and **long** and **high** and **deep** is the love of Christ..."

#### **EPHESIANS 3:18 NIV**

"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."

1 JOHN 4:16-18 NIV

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

PSALM 139:7-10 NIV

### 3 We must move from **B E L I E V I N G** God's love exists to **E X P E R I E N C I N G** God's love.

"...And to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

#### EPHESIANS 3:19 NIV

"Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 2:14 NRSV

"Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace."

#### ROMANS 8:5-6 NIV



### **SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS**

- 1 Share one thing that stood out to you in this week's sermon and why.
- 2 Do you believe God's love for you is unconditional? Why or why not?
- 3 Pastor Tony talked about having a disordered love. Share with the group if you have had your loves out of order.
- 4 What opportunities are there for our group to make God's love visible this week?
- 5 How can we pray for you this week?



Scan QR Code for more events

## **Upcoming Events**

- 3.30 | Membership Dinner
- 4.01 | Young Married Date Night
- 4.03 | First Day of Venture Registration
- 4.15 | Good Friday Service
- 4.17 | Easter Services & Baptisms