

## TRUTH #2 “I AM LOVED”

Ruth Maurer

**Song of Songs 2:4** “His banner over me is love.”

May we not only gain knowledge of God’s love for us, but may we EXPERIENCE His Presence.

**Ephesians 3:18-19** “May you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, **though it is too great to UNDERSTAND fully.**

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.”

“Go after a life of love as if your life DEPENDS on it – because it does.”

### FURTHER SCRIPTURE

1 John 3:1	Ephesians 2:4
1 John 4:9-10	Romans 5:6-11
John 3:16	

We hear a lot about “LOVE” these days; Jesus gave us the real DEFINITION:

**John 15:13-15** “and here is how to measure it (love) – the greatest love is shown when people lay down their LIVES for their friends. You are my friends if you obey me. I no longer call you servants, because a master doesn’t confide in his servants. Now you are my friends...”

God not only tolerates, He PURSUES you!

Did you know that God is SO HAPPY you said “yes” to being His child?!

### THE OPPOSITE of LOVE is FEAR:

When we violate love, FEAR comes. We have misconceptions of what holy fear is.

There are **3 Levels/Types of Fear**:

- 1) Fear of unpleasant consequences or PUNISHMENT.
- 2) Anxiety over breaking God's law or DISAPPOINTING Him.
- 3) The highest form is the profound reverence for life that comes from RIGHTLY SEEING God.

Fearing and seeing are LINKED. Fear at this level is also translated as awe or reverence, idea of wonder, amazement, mystery, astonishment, gratitude, admiration, worship.

**1 John 4:16-18**, "Perfect love CASTS OUT level 1 and 2 fear!"

### **What are the things that we fear?**

- Fear of failure (maybe you failed miserably and you fear failing again)
- Fear of loss (loss of finances, a child, a relationship)
- Fear of rejection (broken relationship in the past)
- Fear of shame (fallen one too many times)
- Fear of messes
- Fear of losing control
- Fear of \_\_\_\_\_
- Fear of \_\_\_\_\_

Fear PARALYZES! It stops you from moving forward. God wants that SPIRIT of fear broken off!

What you focus on, you BECOME.

Let us CLOTHE ourselves in LOVE. (Colossians 3:14)

You CANNOT over-exaggerate the Father's love. It is LIMITLESS !

### **Richard Foster's Prayer:**

**"Today O LORD, I accept Your acceptance of me. I confess that You are ALWAYS with me and ALWAYS for me. I receive into my spirit Your grace, Your mercy, Your care. I REST IN YOUR LOVE, O LORD, I REST IN YOUR LOVE."**

**AMEN**