

God's Love Means: Continuing Forgiveness

How good would a relationship be if one mistake ruined the whole relationship? Have you had any relationships in the past where one person did something wrong, and the whole relationship was finished? Read 1 John 1:8-9 (p.1534) to see what God does for us.

God's Love Continues

When we are little kids, we promise to be “best friends” with someone forever. How long does that usually continue? In weddings, the bride and groom promise to love and keep each other “until death parts us.” Do marriages always have love that continues?

Read Isaiah 54:8-10 (p. 929). Will God's love and kindness ever leave His people?

In case you didn't understand that, Psalm 136 (p. 770) will tell you how long God's love continues. The word “mercy” also means “love.” In Hebrew, it is the same word. God's love endures _____.

God's love for us also inspires us to love other people. More on that in the next two studies!

Exploring God's Love



God Loves His Church

God loves His church! That should not surprise us. In the first study, we saw that God loves the world, all people. Even though we sin against God, He still loves us and sent Jesus to die for us.

In this study, we will see that God has a special love for His church, all the people who believe in Jesus. God does things for His people that He doesn't do for unbelievers. We will find out how God shows that special love and what that means for us.

Love's Goal: Relationship

If we love someone, we want to have a relationship with them. That means we want to talk, do things with that person, share things, and so on. God wants that with us!

The Bible uses two different pictures to explain our relationship with God. Read 1 John 3:1 (p. 1535). God loves us so much, He calls us His _____.

Is everyone on earth God's child? Or are only some people called God's children? Read Galatians 3:26 (p. 1462) to see how we become God's children.

We are God's children. What does that mean for us? How does that benefit us? Romans 8:15-17 (p. 1418).

Read Ephesians 5:22-33 (p. 1470) to see the other picture of our relationship with Christ. Christ's relationship with the church is like what human relationship?

Christ loves the church. What did He do for the church because of His love? Look again at Ephesians 5:25-27.

Read John 17:21 (p. 1358). The final goal is that we will be _____ with God. All because God loves us!

God's Love Means: Discipline

God's love isn't always warm fuzzy stuff. Sometimes God has to discipline us. Read Hebrews 12:4-10 (p. 1516), then answer these questions.

God disciplines us because He _____ us.

If God doesn't discipline us, that means we are not His _____.

How do you think God disciplines us? What is discipline? Can you give examples from your own life?

God's Love Means: Growth

Because God loves us, He wants us to grow.

Ephesians 3:17-19 (p. 1468) says our whole life should be built on God's _____.

In Hosea 14:4-7 (p. 1137), God paints a beautiful picture of what His love can do for His people. Would you like to be part of this picture?