



Senior Bible Study Ministry

I Want to Know What Love Is

<https://www.seniorbiblestudies.org/>

I Want to Know What Love Is

*I've gotta take a little time
A little time to think things over
I better read between the lines
In case I need it when I'm older
And this mountain, I must climb
Feels like the world upon my shoulders
And through the clouds, I see love shine
It keeps me warm as life grows colder*

I Want to Know What Love Is

*In my life, there's been heartache and pain
I don't know if I can face it again
Can't stop now, I've travelled so far
To change this lonely life
I wanna know what love is
I want you to show me
I wanna feel what love is
I know you can show me*

I Want to Know What Love Is

*I'm gonna take a little time
A little time to look around me
I've got nowhere left to hide
It looks like love has finally found me
Let's talk about love
Love that you feel inside
I'm feeling so much love
Oh, you know, you just can't hide*

A stylized graphic featuring a heart shape with a gradient from pink to yellow, set against a black background. The heart is surrounded by flame-like shapes in shades of purple, pink, and orange. The entire composition is enclosed in a white rectangular border.

God's

Love

God's Love

- God created us with a longing for eternal love.

*11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. cAlso, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.
(Ecclesiastes 3:11 ESV)*

God's Love

- Earthly relationships alone cannot satisfy the soul.

13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water. (Jeremiah 2:13 ESV)

- Loneliness awakens our desire for God.

16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. (Psalm 25:16 ESV)

God's Love

- Pain often becomes the path to God.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18 ESV)

- We were never meant to walk alone.

*18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
(Genesis 2:18 ESV)*

God's Love

- The world's definition of love often leads to disappointment.

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life - is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. (1 John 2:15-17 ESV)

God's Love

- God hears the cry of the heart searching for love.

1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. (Psalm 40:1 ESV)

- Our emptiness is a signpost pointing us to Jesus.

13 Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:13-14 ESV)

God's Love

- God's love seeks us even when we are lost.

*10 “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
(Luke 19:10 ESV)*

- We must acknowledge our need for something greater.

*3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom
of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3 ESV)*

True love

is found in Jesus Christ..

a portrait of grace //

True Love is Found in Jesus

- God is the source of all true love.

8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:8 ESV)

- God showed His love by sending Jesus.

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 ESV)

True Love is Found in Jesus

- Jesus demonstrated love through sacrifice.

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 ESV)

- His love is unconditional & eternal.

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith - that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:17-19 ESV)

True Love is Found in Jesus

- Jesus welcomes all who seek Him.

28 “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30 ESV)

True Love is Found in Jesus

- Love is shown by Christ's compassion & mercy.

34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.

(Mark 6:34 ESV)

- God's love is personal & transformative.

20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20 ESV)

True Love is Found in Jesus

- Jesus proved love by laying down His life.

13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13 ESV)

- The cross is the ultimate symbol of God's love.

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10 ESV)

True Love is Found in Jesus

- To know love is to know Jesus.

*10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection,
and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his
death, (Philippians 3:10 ESV)*

EXPERIENCING THE LOVE OF GOD



Experiencing the Love of God

- Knowing God's love begins with faith in Jesus.

*12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,
(John 1:12 ESV)*

- Receiving Jesus brings new life.

*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
(2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV)*

Experiencing the Love of God

- God's love gives peace, not confusion.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7 ESV)

- Love transforms our thoughts & actions.

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2 ESV)

Experiencing the Love of God

- God's Spirit confirms His love within us.

16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, (Romans 8:16 ESV)

- The journey to know love is lifelong but rewarding.

(Hebrews 12:1-2)

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Experiencing the Love of God

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV)

- We love others because God first loved us.

19 We love because he first loved us. (1 John 4:19 ESV)

Experiencing the Love of God

- God's love prepares us for eternity.

*2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. (John 14:2-3 ESV)*

Experiencing the Love of God

- God's love secures us in His grace forever.

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 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 ESV)

Experiencing the Love of God

- The ultimate goal is to dwell with God forever.

*3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”
(Revelation 21:3-4 ESV)*

Practical Applications

- Spend daily time in prayer asking God to reveal His love to you personally.
- Read Scripture each day to better understand the nature of God's love.
- Reflect on how Jesus has already shown His love through His life, death & resurrection.
- Talk with a fellow resident about how God's love has comforted you during difficult times.

Practical Applications

- Forgive someone you may still be holding a grudge against, modeling Jesus' love.
- Write a note of encouragement or gratitude to a family member or staff member.
- Listen to or sing hymns & songs that remind you of God's everlasting love.
- Ask God to help you love others more fully, even those who are difficult.

Discussion Questions

- Can you recall a time in your life when you truly felt the love of God? How did it change you?
- What does it mean that Jesus “showed” us what love is?
- Why do you think so many people still feel lonely or unloved, even with many around them?
- How can we help one another discover & experience the love of God more fully in this stage of life?
- What is one practical way you can share God’s love with someone in this facility this week?



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