



THE DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE 2023

GROWING & GOING

SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2023

“Eternally Loved” / Romans 8:31-39

Ps. Sam Toms

- God’s Love is Eternal, Unconditional and unrestricted.
- Love Limits – Our response limits the effects of God’s love in our life
- We need to respond to the invitational nature of God’s love.
- The Power of YES. – Salvation and Discipleship.

Love is an overused and misunderstood adjective, verb and way of articulating something of depth and significance. In many ways, we can see a remnant or echo of Love as it drifts across humanity's landscape. We see brief shivers and hear faint whispers of it within the relationships that are around us. All of which is a far cry from the Love that is understood as coming from GOD. In John 4:8, we read that God is Love, a key attribute of his character. He is the supreme source of Love, the source that the echo emanates from. God's Love is complete, unbreakable and unrestricted, but we often struggle to see it in operation within the believer's life. This is not because God's Love is deficient but because we aren't responding to it.

In what ways do we reject the Love of God in our life?

It's a hard question to answer, partly because our understanding of Love is limited. A really helpful way of understanding God's Love is to see it as an invitation. An invitation to walk with him, an invitation to commune with him. An invitation to let go of our broken desires and take of His perfectness.

Read Matthew 16:24-26. What stops us from responding to the Love of God and His invitation to follow him?

Love is not enough. Love on its own doesn't save us. Only as we accept, receive and take hold of God's invitation do we enter into salvation. Salvation is only half the journey. God wants us to be mature and to be not just beneficiaries of God's Love but dispensaries as well. This is the Discipleship Challenge.

In John 15:2, we read about the pruning concept. God wants to prune back the areas in our lives that we have placed limits on. Areas where we put God as a passenger and we take over the driver's seat.

What are the limits that you have placed on your relationship with God?

Here are a number of common ones: What I watch, How I spend my spare time, How I spend my money, my relationships, and my Desires (lust/sexuality).

Pray That you would Respond to the Bus Stops and that God's Love invites us to jump on board.



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