

The Immeasurable Love of God, November 8th
2021

Tonight We are going to dive into Real Church's theme verse.

If understood correctly, I believe this passage is a synopsis of the entire goal of a Christian.

Simply stated, the goal is not just to **BELIEVE** in Christ for salvation, but to daily or regularly **RECEIVE** His love afresh, through pursuing an understanding of ALL that He has given us through Christ, and upon the foundation of His love for us, and through the power of His Spirit in us, we can be filled with the fullness of God-A.K.A.-CHRIST!



Before we look at our passage let me explain.

We know from Scripture that we have been made new, the old has passed away and the new has come (**2nd Corinthians 5:17**).

We know that we still deal with sin (**Romans 7**) and we also know that we have the option to sin (**Galatians 5**). We further know that we live in a tension between the two-flesh and Spirit (**Galatians 5, Romans 7**).

We further know that we are commanded to live for Christ, to Christ, in Christ, and even more powerfully to let CHRIST LIVE THROUGH US as our old self died when we repented and accepted Him as Savior (**Galatians 2:20**).

As we will see through this passage of Scripture, there is a rich calling for every believer. It is a call to be FILLED with the FULLNESS of God. Jesus Himself was the fullness of God incarnate! (**Colossians 1:19**).

The question remains-

How do I become filled with His fullness and what does that even look like?

Main Text: Ephesians 3:16-19

To begin to answer that question, we need to look at verse 16.

"...strengthened with power through his Spirit, in your inner being".

We need the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen the inner person (the seat of our soul so-to-speak) to help us pursue Him!

We can be saved, and not pursuing a deeper relationship with God
This happens through ignorance and lack of discipleship/teaching, and it happens through complacency.

Paul in this text was not saying we need His power in salvation, because clearly Christ is in our hearts in salvation, and He mentioned the Spirit's power strengthening us.

So strengthening us to what? To pursue Him.

Where do we begin pursuing Him?

Signs and wonders?! Wrong!

By desiring that our knowledge of His love for us would deepen

THE WHOLE REASON THAT WE ARE EVEN HAVING THIS CONVERSATION ABOUT GOD, LOOKING AT GOD'S WORD, IN A CHURCH UNDER GOD'S AUTHORITY IS BECAUSE **HE LOVES US!!!!**

And His love came before anything...

1 John 4:19-..."He first loved us".

Ephesians 1:4- He chose us from the foundation of the world.

1 John 3:1-"...we should be called **children** of God."

Romans 8:38-39-NOTHING can separate us from His love! Your sin couldn't then, and any sin you deal with now still won't! That is why having no condemnation as Romans 8:1 says should lead us to throw off sin, and run to a forgiving God who wants to continue to reveal Himself to us as He sanctifies us through His Holy character.

In our main text it describes the love of Christ as this: *a love that surpasses knowledge.*

Church, the love that God has for us cannot be explained by human reason or intellect.

It is IMMEASURABLE.

*The love that God has for us can literally only be received by **faith**, through the Holy Spirit's work to help us believe because God's love makes no sense to a hardened, fallen person, in the if/then, world we live in.*

The love that God has for us is a THEN/IF love. God saw our sin and decided THEN-eternity past-that he would die for us to redeem us. And he would redeem us, not if we would love Him back, but He would redeem us knowing that we can still choose to sin "if" we feel like it.

Obviously Paul, Peter and Jesus Himself emphasized holiness, and God will always emphasize it, however our salvation is not based on our own merit as we know.

So here is where the depth of Christianity, the blessing of it is found:

Every day is a new day to know God's love more.

It is God's love that transforms us.

Do you want more peace? Know the love of God.

Do you want more patience? Know the love of God.

Do you want more joy? Know the love of God.

Do you want to live a better Christian life? THEN KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD.

The fruit's of the Spirit are fruit's that come from walking with an all-loving, personal God, whereby the Spirit of God is living through us, as we allow Him to live through us.

Romans 5:5-"... God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Salvation came into us by the Spirit who is our seal or downpayment of our full salvation, it is the down payment of a loving gift that has not been fully unwrapped! WE will unwrap all that the gift of salvation contains once in heaven with Him, reigning on the new earth!

I hope that I am creating an argument for one thing tonight: This church, and us as Christians, must keep focused on one primary thing as our basis for our life and ministry:

Jesus Christ was given for us, that we would be saved to Him for eternity, and empowered to know Him more fully in this life.

This can only come about through a relationship with Him!

While I cannot determine what you need from Jesus in your life, I can point to God's Word to show you where to start.

Access We Have to God! **Hebrews 10:19-22**

Go to Him in confidence because of what Christ has done on the cross for you.
Go to him with a true heart and full assurance of faith—a life and mindset devoted to God and believing He is who is really says He is.

One of the first promises of God's love, if not THE first is in **Exodus 20:6** "...but showing steadfast love to thousands (the thousandth generation) of those who love me and keep my commandments.

God's love is steadfast. It's not going anywhere, it is not fleeting. We don't have to earn more of it. We already have all of it through Jesus Christ and his indwelling Spirit.

It's what we do with this knowledge of such love that is important.

I'm afraid that the Charismatic and Pentecostal church as a whole, as well as countless other church denominations have forgotten where it all began. They have put the power of the Gospel in the back pocket of preaching and practice and placed emphasis on other things. It's the GOSPEL+ MOVEMENT in our nation and world that is killing the church!

We haven't been satisfied with the Word alone, and so we, for generations long ago, until now, had to add to it or prop up certain parts of it higher than others.

Church it is quite simple. Jesus Christ is the foundation. He lives in us, and He needs to live through us. We need the power of His Spirit to know Him more, so that He changes us from the inside out. He is at the center of all Biblical Theology, and He is at the center of the hearts of those who have believed in Him.

Q: What are you going to do with such love?

