God's Love for Us Loving God, Loving Others, Making Disciples Matthew 22:29-40 9-19-21

God's Love is:

I. Ceaseless Toward Us.

Jeremiah 31:3 — "The Lord <u>appeared to him from far away</u>. I have loved you with an <u>everlasting</u> <u>love</u>; <u>therefore</u>, I have <u>continued my faithfulness to you</u>."

Jeremiah 31:3 (NLT) – "...With unfailing love I have drawn you to Myself."

John 15:7 – "Jesus said, '...abide in me, and my words...""

John 15:9 – "Jesus said, 'As the Father has loved Me...I loved you. Abide in My love."

II. Creates Love in Us.

1 John 4:19 – "We love because He first loved us."

III. Changes Us.

Romans 5:5 – "... <u>God's love</u> has been <u>poured into our hearts</u> <u>through the Holy Spirit</u> who has been given to us."

Galatians 2:20 – "I have been crucified with Christ. <u>It is no longer I who live</u>, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh <u>I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave</u> <u>Himself for me</u>."

Romans 5:8 – "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Zephaniah 3:17 – "The Lord your God...<u>will rejoice over you</u> with gladness; <u>He will quiet you by His</u> <u>love</u>..."

Isaiah 44:1-5

IV. Consumes Us.

Matthew 22:29-37 – "But Jesus answered them, 'You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.' And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at His teaching. But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question to test Him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'"

V. Compels Us.

Matthew 22:38-40 – "This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: <u>You shall love your neighbor as yourself</u>. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 – "For the love of Christ <u>controls (compels) us</u>...that those who live might <u>no longer live for themselves but for Him</u> who <u>for their sake died and was raised</u>."

Going Deeper This Week

- 1. Read Matthew 22:29-40. What is God revealing to you?
- 2. Review Sunday's message. What is MCC's purpose statement? (Write it down without looking) Discuss our approach to assisting individuals in living out God's purpose statement. Share how your faith has been strengthened while here at MCC.
- 3. Review the truths from Sunday concerning God's love for His people.
- 4. Why is living in these truths important for a healthy and effective family? Church? Nation?
- 5. What are the consequences that you have seen over the years when a church fails to be clear about God's love and God's holiness?
- 6. How have you grown in experiencing God's love for you?