

Daily Devotional #9 – God’s Love

1 John 4:8 says, “*God is love.*” This is a unique statement because it is not only saying that God loves. Rather, it is saying that God embodies what love is. Love is more than an attribute in that respect as love, or the act of loving, is who God is. The Bible does not say that God is wrath or that God is justice, but rather that He is wrathful and just. He does not embody in His Being the idea of wrath or the idea of justice.

So, what are we referring to when we speak of God’s love?

Wayne Grudem says that, “God’s love means that God eternally gives of Himself to others.” God gives of Himself for the benefit of others. In fact, God even gave of Himself before anything was created. John 17:24 tells us that God loved His Son Jesus even before the world was created. He has always been giving of Himself because it is who He is. Knowing that God is both holy (separate, distinct) and independent (needs no one and nothing), should cause us to see how God’s love was not earned, deserved, or owed to anyone. That is one of the reasons this attribute is so beautiful!

So, how does God demonstrate love by giving of Himself to you?

1. Physical blessings in life.

God gives life from Himself. He is the source of life and shows His love towards us with every breath we take. Not only that, but your family, friends, and church show God’s love to you in that He gave them to you out of His kindness. James 1:17a says, “*Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.*”

2. Revealing His Word to You.

Have you ever thought about if you were born in a different family or a different country far away from here where you might have never heard about the Bible? Did you control what parents you were born to? Did you control where your parents would be living and whether they went to church or not? Did you control them teaching you about the Gospel or even them giving you the chance to hear the Word of God right now? I want us to think about these things so that you see how God has gifted you with an opportunity to hear from Him in His Word. The Bible reveals the way to godliness and eternal life. The Bible reveals Jesus. This means, that if you were born into another family in another place where you never heard the Bible, you would have no access to who God is and have no knowledge of how to be saved? Praise God for granting you the privilege of learning about Him through His Word!

3. Offering salvation to all by sending His Son to die.

1 John 4:10 says, “*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*” John 15:13 says, “*Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.*” God’s love for His creation can never be questioned. All of humanity rebelled against Him and deserved nothing but death, but God “*so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*” (John 3:16) Have you received the love of God in faith or do you reject His love because you love your sin and yourself? God’s love is like no other. His love knows no bounds, has no limitations, and never fails. Run to Him in faith and see the beautiful love of God for yourself!