

The Greatest Love

Part 2 of the *The Week That Changed Everything* Series

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It's one thing to know about someone's love for you, it's another thing to experience it.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.
1 John 3:16 NIV

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.
1 John 4:10 NLT

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.
Eph 3:17-18 NIV

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

You can see the depths of Christ's love in...

- How much it cost him.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.
John 15:13 NIV

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.
Ephesians 5:2 NIV

- How little we deserve it. (Romans 5:6-8 NIV)
- The freedom with which He loves us. (John 10:14-15, 18 NIV)
- How great the benefits are for us being loved.

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1 NIV

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32 NIV

- How unstoppable it is. (Romans 8:38-39 NIV)

Next Steps

Pray this prayer: *Jesus, I don't want to just know about your love, I want to experience it, to have it poured out in my heart. Help me know your love and to freely receive it. Then help me to live my life rooted & established in this great, unstoppable love you have for me.*

Take some time to answer the following questions with your spouse, children, or small group...

- Icebreaker question: It's spring break season. Tell about your greatest spring break adventure.
- Tell about a time where someone (other than Jesus) did something for you that showed just how much they loved you.
- Read through the above 5 points in the sermon notes. Which one of these means the most to you and why?
- Read Romans 5:5. Would you say you "know about" God's love or that you "*know*" God's love, that it's been "poured out" in your heart? Explain.
- Read Ephesians 3:17-18 and then pray that prayer over one another.