

Lesson 2-4 - Falling in Love with God

1. When building the church and each other, we must have our priorities right. God's word tells us what is most important to Him:

Matthew 22:37 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.

Jesus says this is the great and first commandment.
Matthew 22:38

2. Loving God should be our greatest priority, so how can we do it? How can we fall in love with God?

3. You have people in your life that you love. Why do you love them?

4. Here is a list of several reasons why we think we love someone:

- a. They love us. _____
- b. They forgive us. _____
- c. They build us up. _____
- d. They are honest with us. _____
- e. They know everything about us and still love us. _____
- f. They spend time with us. _____
- g. They share memories with us. _____
- h. They share our dreams. _____
- i. They share our failures and defeats. _____
- j. They are related to us or share our heritage. _____

5. Do you have any other reasons?

6. Of the list in item 4, which ones apply to loving God? Check off the ones you think apply to loving God.

7. If you love someone, is it difficult to forgive them, in other words, are you willing to accept them as they are?

8. Is God lovable?

9. What characteristics about God are lovable?

10. Have you found any of God's characteristics difficult to love?

11. Are you willing to accept God as He is?

12. In lessons 3 and 4, we discussed faith without which it is impossible to please God.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that he rewards everyone who searches for him.

13. How does faith connect us with a loving God? Recall the definition of faith.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, and the sign that the things not seen are true.

14. There were many Bible characters who were "in love" with God. Probably the best documented is "David" who wrote many of the Psalms.

Psalms 18:1 To the chief music-maker. Of the servant of the Lord, of David, who said the words of this song to the Lord on the day when the Lord made him free from the hand of all his haters, and from the hand of Saul; and he said, I will give you my love, O Lord, my strength.

Psalms 18:2 The Lord is my Rock, my walled town, and my saviour; my God, my Rock, in him will I put my faith; my breastplate, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Psalms 18:3 I will send up my cry to the Lord, who is to be praised; so will I be made safe from those who are against me.

Psalms 19:7 The law of the Lord is good, giving new life to the soul: the witness of the Lord is certain, giving wisdom to the foolish.

Psalms 19:8 The orders of the Lord are right, making glad the heart: the rule of the Lord is holy, giving light to the eyes.

Psalms 19:9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and has no end; the decisions of the Lord are true and full of righteousness.

Psalms 19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, even than much shining gold; sweeter than the dropping honey.

15. why did David love God?

16. why did David love the law (he called it good) ?

17. Do you love the law?

18. Conclusion: The great and most important commandment is to love God. In order to love him, we must know Him, His attributes, and his word. We need to share our lives with Him and be about His business as well letting Him be involved in ours. We can do this by faith and be very pleasing to Him.

19. To do:

- a. Seek Him and His kingdom. (Matt 6:33)
- b. Get to know Him.
- c. Be honest with Him.

d. Thank Him that He is willing to forgive you and accept you the way you are; be willing to accept Him the way He is.

e. Spend time with what is important to Him: His word, His church, His work, and communication with Him (prayer).

f. Confess your love for Him and thank Him for His love for you.

1 John 4:16 And we have seen and had faith in the love which God has for us. God is love, and everyone who has love is in God, and God is in him.

20. It is also important that we love one another, which is the subject of lesson 2-5