



## VIDEO #6 – BELOVED.

*Life with Jesus flows from His love for us!*

### OVERVIEW

We started this life series by talking about going “All In” for Jesus, but what is most important is to know that He went “All In” for you when He sacrificially gave His life to pay our debt of sin on the cross. The purpose of this Life Series video is to help you claim His love and rest in His love that you might freely and fully live.

[Click Here](#) for YouTube Link.

### OBJECTIVES

By the end of this discussion it is our hope and prayer that everyone knows the following Truths:

- WHEN IT COMES TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, HE IS THE ONE WHO INITIATED IT AND HE SUSTAINS IT.
- IT IS GOD’S DESIRE THAT WE NOT ONLY KNOW ABOUT HIS LOVE, BUT THAT WE RADICALLY EXPERIENCE IT.
- ABUNDANT LIFE FLOWS FROM HIS LOVE AND IF WE FOCUS ON ABIDING IN THAT LOVE IT HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO SPILL OVER BACK TO HIM AND EVERYONE AROUND US.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

After watching the video by yourself or as a group, please go through the following discussion/reflection questions to help these truths sink into your heart and mind. These questions are simply meant to guide you, so feel free to go off script and follow the discussion or your thoughts wherever it takes you to fully explore and embrace the Objectives!

**Objective #1** – When it comes to our relationship with God, He is the one who initiated it and He sustains it.

**Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19a.**

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself... that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them... (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:18-19a ESV)

**Q:** What does it mean to be reconciled? Likewise, what does it mean that God reconciled us to himself? What part did Jesus play in that?

**Q:** God needed to send Jesus to reconcile us to himself. Why did we need to be reconciled in the first place?

**Q:** Have you ever needed to be reconciled to someone who has wronged you? Was it difficult? Compare your feelings in trying to be reconciled with what God did for you and the world.

**Read Deuteronomy 31:8.**

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8 ESV)

**Q:** What do we learn about God’s faithfulness from this verse concerning our relationship with Him? What does that mean for us practically?

**Q:** Do you believe or live like this is true? How should the truth of God being with us and never leaving us impact our lives?

**Objective #2** – It is God’s desire that we not only know about His love, but that we radically experience it.

**Read Ephesians 3:14-19.**

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Apostle Paul, Ephesians 3:14-19 ESV)

*Note:* In this passage the Apostle Paul is writing a letter to the believers or church at the city of Ephesus. In the middle of the letter he spends some time writing out a prayer to the people in that city, expressing his desire for them before God.

**Q:** What is the essence of Paul's prayer for these people? In your own words describe what he is desiring for these people.

**Q:** In this prayer is Paul's desire that God's people be strengthened. What things in this passage does Paul say will bring us strength?

**Q:** The prayer concludes with the idea that we would know "the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge". What do you think this means? Have you ever experienced this?

**Read Galatians 4:6.**

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Galatians 4:6 ESV)

**Q:** We have been adopted as beloved sons and daughters of God. How does God help us to know the love of the Father? Have you ever experienced this?

**Activity Break:** Take a moment and pray for this truth for yourself and those around you!

**Objective #3** – Abundant Life flows from His Love and if we focus on abiding in that love it has no choice but to spill over back to Him and everyone around us.

**Read John 15:1, 4-5.**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser... Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he

it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (Jesus, John 15:4-5 ESV)

*Note:* In this passage Jesus is speaking to His disciples about how to live fruitful and full lives of abundance and ultimately what empowers that by using an analogy from nature.

**Q:** In this passage Jesus uses an analogy to explain the Christian life. In this analogy what role do we play, does God the Father play, and Jesus play?

**Q:** Jesus here talks about living a “fruitful life” or one that produces fruit. What does he mean by this and what are some examples?

**Q:** In order to live fruitful lives what are we supposed to do? Is there a difference between trying hard and abiding in Him?

**Q:** Jesus here calls us to “abide” in him, what does that look like? Explain the importance of abiding with Jesus in order to display Jesus and His love to everyone around us.

**Q:** How does this change your focus on living out the Christian life? Do you find yourself trying to live for God, but without Him? How has this changed your approach going forward?

## PUTTING INTO PRACTICE

The following is a series of activities that you can do to help take the ideas you learned in this video and discussion and apply them to your life!

**Activity Prep** – This one might be the most difficult “activities” for some people, who are always on the go and always looking to do something. Remember that even God rested on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day when making the earth and calls us to set aside time to rest and do so in Him. As part of the following “activities”, think about how you can incorporate these as a regular part of being still and resting in your life, reflecting on the things that really matter! What might Sabbath or regular rest look like in your life moving forward?

**Activity #1** – Spend some time reflecting on all the things that the Lord has done for you and others. These can be small and personal or massive and far reaching. Some specific things to consider might be God sending His Son, Jesus’s sacrifice, The Holy Spirit living inside us, the friends and family that God has given us, His Truth that sets us free, the gifts and talents we have, etc... Spend time writing down and reflecting on these things, letting their reality wash over you! None of this should feel like a chore or something you “have” to do, but ways to simply express what you are feeling inside as you reflect on His goodness towards you!

**Activity #2** – Pick one day out of the week and dedicate it to Sabbath. This could involve reading and praying but also hanging with friends, being outside, or doing a hobby. Just be purposeful in your time giving God the thanks. This might take you working a little harder the day before to do your chores and other work, but it will be worth it.