**Living like Jesus – Loving God**

*A lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? And He said to him, what is written in the Law? How does it read to you? And he answered, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself. And He said to him, you have answered correctly, do this and your will live. – Luke 10:25 - 28*

1. **Jesus love for God the Father**

*But so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. John 14:31*

1. Jesus loved God the Father with all His heart, soul, strength, and mind!

He loved God the Father & glorified Him – 17:1

He loved God the Father accomplishing the work He gave Him to do – 17:4

He loved God the Father living united to Him – 17:21

He loved God the Father knowing that God the Father loved Him eternally – 17:24

He loved God the Father in order that believers may experience the love of God the Father – 17:26

1. **Believers love for God**
2. Believers are loved by God before they love God

*Because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us – Rm. 5:5*

*See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God, and such we are. 1 John 3:1*

*By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 1 John 4:9*

1. Believer’s love God with their entire person – Luke 10:28

**They love God with their heart** – *my heart trusts in Him – Ps. 28:7*

**They love God with their soul** – Mary said, *my soul exalts the Lord – Lk. 1:46*

**They love God with their strength** – *if you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today – Duet.28:1*

**They love God with their mind –** *set your mind on things above – Col. 3:1*

1. Believers love Jesus as they obey Him

*Whoever keep His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him 1 John 2:5*

*For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments and His commandments are not burdensome 1 John 5:3*

*He who has my commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose myself to him – John 14:21*

*If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him – John 14:23*

*For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father – John 16:27*

1. Believers live in the assurance of God’s love

*Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Christ to eternal life – Jude 1:21*

*That you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God – Eph. 3: 18 -19*

**Steps to improving our love for God**

1. Seek to obey Jesus Christ in every area of life
2. Confess your disobedience when it occurs in your life
3. Loving your neighbor reveals that you love God

*Whoever has the world’s goods, and see his brother in need and closes his beart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? 1 John 3:17*

*Let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God 1 John 4:7*

*The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love 1 John 4:8*

1. Living in a loving relationship with Jesus Christ is based on our obedience to Him

*We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God and God abides in him*

*1 John 4:16*

When we love God most, we are at our best, most pleasing to God; and our lives are the sweetest to ourselves. When we confident think about God the Father’s mercies and love for us, we will love Him more! – Richard Baxter

**HYMN:**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness**

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided:  
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]