



The Benefits of God's Love for YOU

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

March 29, 2026

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! – 1 John 3:1

Not only did it cost him his Son to save us from sin and death and hell (John 3:16; 1 John 3:16); and not only were we enemies so that God had to propitiate his own righteous anger in order to save us (1 John 4:10); He showed us another kind of love beyond all that. He might have rescued us, sacrificed for us, forgiven us, and not gone any further. But instead, he showed us another kind of love – he took us into his family. He made us to be called children of God.

Love and Its Benefits ... 1 John 3:1-3

- I. The Father's Great _____ ... (1)
Cp. Ephesians 3:14-19; Matthew 13:16-17
 - a. Should _____ Us ...
Cp. Matthew 7:28; 8:27
 - b. Should _____ Us ...
Cp. Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
 - c. Is a Gift you can't _____ ...
Cp. Romans 5:6-10; Ephesians 2:4-7
- II. The Father's Great Love has made _____
... (1-3)
Cp. John 1:12-13; 1 Peter 1:3; 2 Peter 1:4
 - a. Future _____ ...
Cp. 1 Corinthians 13:12; Colossians 3:3-4
 - b. Present _____ ...
Cp. Romans 15:13; 1 Corinthians 13:13; 1 John 3:3-24

The Child of God and His Love

- I. We are _____ to be Loved by God
- II. One Day we will enjoy the _____
- III. Today we _____ and are called to _____
His Love in our _____.

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

HONESTY AND PRAISE IN PRAYER

What is the Posture of your Heart as you Pray, Worship, and Come into the Presence of God?

The ideal answer is that we would always come to the Lord with thanksgiving and praise! However, let's look at David in many of his psalms. He often starts out with questions and expressing a hurting heart! *"Why do You stand afar off, O Lord? Why do You hide in times of trouble?"* To be honest, I believe EACH of us sometimes comes into His presence with these same thoughts and emotions.

If you pay attention as you read the Psalms, you will discover that even when David honestly expresses his questions and sorrows, he never lingers there. He moves His focus from what he sees and feels upward by speaking out truths of who God is and how He works. He speaks God's promises back to Him. He doesn't allow emotions to rule but speaks out truths to pierce the darkness.

A summary of many of David's prayers is that he was brutally honest with His Father and expressed all he was experiencing along with his questions and doubts. But he didn't linger there! He moved to praise and thanksgiving and a full focus on the Lord.

In what ways might you change how you are going to God in prayer to experience a deeper sense of praise and thanksgiving?

How can you put yourself in a better position to express praise and thanksgiving?

- Be intentional to do so!
- Highlight and/or keep a journal of scripture that speaks God's promises, His character and His ways.
- Meditate on Scripture that speaks truth into the darkness.



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Love and Its Benefits ... 1 John 3:1-3

- I. The Father's Great **Love** ... (1)
Cp. Ephesians 3:14-19; Matthew 13:16-17
 - a. Should **Amaze** Us ...
Cp. Matthew 7:28; 8:27
 - b. Should **Instruct** Us ...
Cp. Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
 - c. Is a Gift you can't **order from Amazon** ...
Cp. Romans 5:6-10; Ephesians 2:4-7
- II. The Father's Great Love has made **us Children** ... (1-3)
Cp. John 1:12-13; 1 Peter 1:3; 2 Peter 1:4
 - a. Future **Hope** ...
Cp. 1 Corinthians 13:12; Colossians 3:3-4
 - b. Present **Mandate** ...
Cp. Romans 15:13; 1 Corinthians 13:13; 1 John 3:3-24

The Child of God and His Love

- I. We are **Lavishly Blessed** to be Loved by God
- II. One Day we will enjoy the **Fullness of God's Love**
- III. Today we **Live In** and are called to **Live Out** His Love in our **Present Existence**.

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