

Are you feeling disconnected from God's love? This article may help you solve that problem!

The number one struggle Christians often confess to, if they are honest, is feeling disconnected from God's love. They share about a nagging pain of feeling far from Him. Many have never even experienced what close and loving connection with God is like. So when they hear others talk about this subject, it brings up pain within their hearts.

Most know how to talk about God's love or tell others about it, but deep inside, connecting to it for themselves is challenging. This problem has become an epidemic, keeping people from their greatest need in life: *to have an ongoing experience with the love of God in a real and personal way.*

That was my problem. I knew *about* God's love and could tell others about it, but I lacked a personal heart connection to His love for me, especially as my Father in heaven.

So what about you?

Do you experience the love of the Father?

Common, don't lie to me.

And by the way, I didn't ask if you know *about* God's love, nor did I ask if you could quote Scriptures to me. Have you *experienced* His love? Do you possess an authentic awareness of His abiding presence and undying love for you? Does your heart beat with the love Father God has for you? We have to get honest, lest we continue to tolerate a shallow Christian experience, filled with knowledgeable statements, yet void of the power of God's love.

When someone shares that they have a struggle in receiving God's love, it can be really easy to quote a few Scriptures, toss out some pat answers and send them on their way. But nothing will change until a person *encounters* the love of God. The problem is, most Christians are content with a theoretical reference for God's love, with little to no experience of it in their lives.

I knew in theory that God loved me, but that's pretty much where it ended. Yet once I recognized this emptiness and positioned myself for healing, everything changed. I believe the same will occur for you once the wheels of healing get set into motion.

Since that season of heart healing and awakening, I have dedicated my entire life to helping people encounter the power of what the Father's love can do in their life. This is because His love changes everything.

TWO QUESTIONS

When I began to experience the love of Father God in a real way, it revolutionized how I saw myself and my future. When I moved beyond theory into personal receptivity, my whole world shifted and I entered into a personal renewal.

Before this new awakening in my life, I walked around with two burning questions in my heart that were left unanswered. Most of the time I just ignored them. In fact, throughout my work in helping people over the decades, I have found that all our battles and struggles come down to these two very important questions:

Who am I? Seeing my unique design and living powerfully from the identity God has given me.

Am I loved? Experiencing loving and fruitful relationships with God and others.

These two questions direct you to the biggest needs of your heart. How you answer them will determine how your life plays out. If you don't get the answers from God and healthy relationships, the enemy will seek to give you convoluted responses that will pollute your heart with lies.

"Am I loved?" deals with how well you are able to give and receive love in relationships. "Who am I?" is all about your ability to live securely from your identity in Christ as Father God's child. On these two foundational precepts, everything in your life is built. Ignore or neglect them and the resulting struggles will eventually catch up to you.

God designed you to be loved. It is also His intent that through experiencing love, you will see how significant you are. Loving connection is meant to empower how you see yourself. Without love, you flounder in life. With it, you gain the confidence to overcome anything.

The thing is, you need to grow and learn what love looks like. As humans, we have to be taught everything we know. Leave most baby animals alone and they can learn to survive with built in instinct. Leave a human baby alone and he or she will die.

You will erode spiritually, emotionally and even physically without love having its work in your life. That is because you were born to know what love is and experience it authentically. You also need the acceptance, validation and empowerment that love delivers.

LOVE MUST BE EXPERIENCED

Most people attempt to engage love by learning more information. The problem is that love surpasses intellectual assent. It cannot be contained by data or formulated on a graph. Love is beyond human computation, for it has to be activated, received and acted on. Love has the power to fulfill the deepest longing of your heart. But you must position yourself to receive, which requires a whole new approach.

Think about someone you love deeply. *Why do you love them? Can you give me the top ten reasons? Is there a formula you can provide to validate your love?*

Although you can attempt to respond to those questions, you will always come up short in providing a complete answer that fully expresses love. At the end of the day, it's something you carry in your heart. There are memories of special moments you've had together and a series of decisions you've made that are a part of this love reference. At the end of the day, love involves the experience of relationship.

Most Christ followers have a knowledge that God loves them. That is not the issue. The problem is the need to connect to His love. We need to move beyond quoting information about

God's love and address the problem that so many people feel disconnected from His love. The more we learn about love without experiencing it, the cheaper our reference for love becomes.

Allow yourself the freedom to know that it is God's desire that you *experience* His great love for you. The sacrifice of Christ shows us what His love demonstrates. What Jesus manifested is the greatest example of love ever demonstrated in human history. From that foundation, it is God's intent that His love be displayed to you and through you. Yet it's very challenging to show the Father's great love if you haven't experienced it personally for yourself.