

# Experiencing God's Love

## Ephesians 3:14-19

### **Ephesians 3:14-19 (NASB)**

<sup>14</sup> "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,  
<sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,  
<sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,  
<sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love,  
<sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,  
<sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God."

Scripture says that God loves us, and the cross proves it. Sadly, though, this is only an intellectual truth for many believers, rather than an experiential one. The problem is not with the Lord, but with the individual's capacity to sense His care.

One hindrance may be the tendency to measure divine love by life's circumstances. When the heavenly Father allows tragedies and pain, some consider Him uncaring. The age-old question then becomes very personal: "How could a loving God allow me or those I care about to suffer?" We'll never fully understand His ways, but we can know that His compassion and concern are bigger than the suffering of the whole world, and in the fullness of time, He will make all things right.

A sense of personal unworthiness can also obstruct the acceptance of God's love. Focusing on past sins and moral failures or comparing yourself with others will lead to guilt and hopelessness. Satan specializes in promoting these self-condemning thoughts and feelings in the heart. The Lord never says, "Straighten up, and then I'll care about you." **Remember that divine love is based on God's character, not on our performance.**

Unbelief is the root of all barriers to experiencing God's love. When we deny His interest and concern for us, we doubt the truth of Scripture.

The Lord wants each of us to experience His great love in a personal and intimate way. Don't let the enemy's lies or life's hardships steal the enjoyment and security of this great blessing. When doubts arise, rely on the truth of God's Word. He loves you. Believe it, and eventually you will feel it.