

The Basics of the Father's Love

1. The Father wants to do us good (Matt. 7:7-11)

2. Many people have faulty perceptions of God

I. Introduction to the Father's Love

1. God loves you the same way he loves Jesus (Jn. 17:23)

a. TPT: *...and the world will be convinced that you have sent me, for they will see that you love each one of them with the same passionate love that you have for me.*

2. Jesus prays for us to experience the Father's love just as he did (Jn. 17:26)

a. The Father's love is what made Jesus Jesus!

3. Jesus wants us to dine at the Father's table with him (Rev. 3:20)

a. The Father's table represents all the *blessings* and *benefits* of the Kingdom of God (Rom. 14:17)

4. So much of what we say we believe remains for us *untasted spiritual concepts* (Ps. 34:8)

5. The Father wants you to experience his love

6. The enemy erects many barriers to the Father's love in our *thought patterns, attitudes, and habits*

II. The Definition of the Father's Love

1. Theologically we focus on God's *agape* love (Rom. 5:8)

2. This teaching focuses on God's love in an experiential sense. This is the Father's *phileo* love.

a. Phileo is God's *demonstrated, tender affection*

3. Jesus lived with an *ongoing experience* of God's *phileo* love (Jn. 5:19-20)

a. This *phileo* love allowed Jesus to feel the Father's presence, hear the Father's voice, and see what the Father was doing

4. Does God have phileo love for you? (Jn. 16:26-27)
 - a. Agape focuses on *truth* about God, while phileo focuses on a *touch* from God
 - b. It is this experience of phileo love that enables us to become like Jesus
 - c. The Father's phileo for us love opens the way to the abiding presence of Jesus Christ (Jn. 17:26)

III. The Illustration of the Father's Love

1. **Matt. 3:16-17** ...*And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."*
 - a. In the experience of phileo love, Jesus experiences the Father's nearness, hears his voice, and feels the Father's affections
 2. This is even more important when we remember the needs Jesus had in his humanity....the same needs that we have
 3. Many believers have not yet experienced the phileo love of God
 4. Where the love of parents and people have failed us, the enemy will set up camp at that spot and erect strongholds to keep us from the love of God
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