

THE LOVE OF GOD Advent Series 2018
Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor
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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are taken from the NKJV.

This is Eternal Life

John 17:1-3

“Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: ‘Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.’”

- Jesus Prayed that we would know God as our father.
- This is eternal life that they may know you the only true God and Jesus Christ

One Family in Heaven and Earth

Ephesians 3:14-19

“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

- Only within this family can the revelation of the Love of God be discovered
- The measurements of the love of Christ passes our human knowledge

“I want to know Christ”

Philippians 3:8-9

“What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.” (NIV)

- Apostle Paul gave up everything to have a personal relationship with Jesus.

Philippians 3:10

“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.” (NIV)

Many Live as Enemies of the Cross of Christ

Philippians 3:17-19

“Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things.” (NIV)

- Our goals and values can become distorted.
- Without Jesus Christ our destiny is destruction.
- With Jesus Christ our destiny is a relationship with our Heavenly Father, the Love of God and eternal life.

Press on Toward the Goal

Philippians 3:12-18

“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”(NIV)

- We press toward the goal of knowing God as our Father.
- We press toward the goal of being rooted and grounded in love with our spiritual family
- We press toward the goal of comprehending the revelation of God’s love together..

Seeing God Through Love

1 John 4:12-16

“No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.”

- This Christmas season is about the Love of God
- We can know God’s love through Jesus Christ.