



SERIES BIG IDEA:

We are to love and lead in our homes the way our Heavenly Father loves and leads us.

¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

Many people believe lies and are insecure in their relationship with God.

- **Love is not based on performance.**
- **Love is based on personhood.**

¹"At that time," declares the Lord, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people."

²This is what the Lord says: "The people who survive the sword will find favor in the wilderness; I will come to give rest to Israel." ³The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Jeremiah 31:1-3 (NIV)

God the Father's love is everlasting and unconditional.

³¹"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord.

³³"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Jeremiah 31:31-33 (NIV)

God the Father is committed to us because He created us to be His people.

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 26:28 (NIV)

³¹Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' ³²But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

³³Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

³⁴"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

Matthew 26:31-34 (NIV)

¹⁷Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

John 21:17-19 (NIV)

- **We are secure in God's love for us because of who we are not because of what we do.**
- **We are free to obey God because we are secure in His unconditional and everlasting love for us.**

Performance-based love creates insecurity.



TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I am proud of my children and will unconditionally love them because they are mine.

- I will not base my love for them or pride in them on their performance.
- I will not tie my security into their performance but into God's love for me.
- I will tell them with my words and with my kindness that I love them and that I'm proud of them because they are mine.
- My children's love for me will not determine my love for them.

When children feel secure in our love for them, they will obey and follow us.

MY NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

"Follow and walk, follow and walk, in the way of love"

Kasey Robinson

"Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love..." Ephesians 5:1

We are all called to follow Christ and walk in the way He did. As we spend time with Him, we will do that more and more naturally.

Our kids will do the same with us and will find their security in our response. Do we respond in love to them regardless of circumstance; or, do we respond in love only when we feel they have earned it?

God's love is everlasting and unconditional. It is not performance-based but founded upon the fact that we are His.

Are we following His way of love or are we loving our children based on something else? Where they place their security is going to come from how we love them. Let's follow the example of the One who IS LOVE>

TALK IT OVER:

Do you believe that God loves you regardless of performance? Does the way you live your life reflect that?

In what ways can you enhance the security of your children by loving them the way God loves you?

Are you loving your children out of the overflow of the love that Christ has poured out in your life? Why or why not? If not what is keeping you from doing that?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

- Mon: John 13:34-35; John 6:50-51; John 15:11-13
- Tues: Ephesians 2:8-9 (AMP); John 1:12-14 (AMP)
- Wed: Hebrews 13:5 (AMP); Psalm 103:13-18
- Thur: 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Fri: John 10:25-28
- Sat: Romans 6:19-23; Romans 8:37-39