

**“Love: How Deep the Father’s Love For Us”**  
Luke 15:11-24

*“So that Christ **may dwell** in your hearts through faith — that **you, being rooted and grounded in love**, may have strength **to comprehend** with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and **to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge**, that you may be filled with all the **fullness** of God.”*  
(Ephesians 3:17-19)

● **How do we measure the depth or the greatness of an expression of love?**

- Has this love been earned or deserved by the recipient?
  - *“Christ died for the **ungodly**. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows His love for us in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us....while **we were enemies**.”*  
(Romans 5:6-10)
- How much is sacrificed so that this love can be known and experienced?
  - *“**Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends**” (John 15:13). “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, **yet for your sake He became poor**, so that you by His poverty **might become rich**”*  
(2 Corinthians 8:9).
- How much delight and benefit comes from this love being lavished on us?
  - *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but **have eternal life**” (John 3:16). “You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is the **fullness of joy**; at Your right hand are **pleasures forevermore**” (Psalm 16:11).*
- How strong is the desire of the Lover to do good towards the object of His love?
  - Luke 15:11-24
    - His Father saw him and **felt compassion** and **ran** and **embraced him** even though he had squandered his property in reckless living.
    - Bring quickly **the best robe**....put **a ring on his hand** and **shoes on his feet**.
    - And bring the fattened calf and kill it and **let us eat and celebrate**.
    - *“He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities....as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.”* (Psalm 103:10,12)
- Two last reflections:
  - We are aiming to know God’s love and to experience God’s love to its fullest. *“God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”*  
(Romans 5:5)
  - We need God’s help in enjoying and savoring and experiencing His love. *“May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.”*  
(2 Thessalonians 3:5)

**Worship:** Nothing But The Blood — Various Artists

Away In A Manger (Preeminence Lay) — Jake Mcelfresh

How Deep the Fathers Love For Us — Sovereign Grace Music

**Closing Song:** Come Adore The Humble King — Matt Boswell

**Service Times:** Sundays: Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: Bible Study — Women 6:30p/Men 7p; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

## **Announcements:**

★**CONGREGATION PICTURE:** We are taking an all congregation picture today IMMEDIATELY following the worship service. After the service ends, please stay in your seats so that we can get the picture set up and taken as expediently as possible. The Children's Ministry workers will be bringing your children up to you at the end of the service today.

★**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEETING:** Immediately following the congregation picture, we will be having a Children's Ministry Meeting. If you currently serve in the Children's Ministry or if you are interested in serving in the Children's Ministry, please plan on staying for this meeting!

★**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** Our Christmas Eve Service is THIS Tuesday, December 24th, at 6pm. This is a great opportunity to invite neighbors, friends, and family to come hear "the good news of great joy."

\*A note to all parents: **There will be NO Children's Ministry for the Christmas Eve service.** Please know that you are welcome to use the Flex Room at the back of the sanctuary if at any point you need to remove your child from our gathering. One parent must be in the Flex Room with their child at all times.

→**We will NOT be having a worship service on Thursday, December 26th.**

★**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY:** Our annual New Year's Eve Party will be NEXT Tuesday, December 31st, starting at 6pm, at Andy's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). Please bring your favorite appetizer, snack, fingerfood, or dessert to share, as well as your favorite board or card game to play. EVERYONE is invited to join us for this great time of fun, food, and fellowship! There is a sign-up list on the wall in the entryway, please sign-up if you plan on attending and what food item you plan on bringing with you!

★**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** On January 5th we are going to offer a Sunday School for all people at Legacy from 9-10am each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall to see what kind of interest there might be for teaching the Scriptures before the worship service at 10:30am. We will be studying the book of Daniel, "God's Sovereignty over Nations and Israel and the Future Millennial Age." The book of Daniel is the most comprehensive prophetic revelation of the Old Testament, giving the only total view of world history from Babylon to the second coming of Christ. There is more information about this class in the November Newsletter. Please let Elder Richard know if you are interested so he can prepare notes for each one attending. There will be coffee and donuts each Sunday for class.