

Love Letters From God

May you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how **WIDE**, how **LONG**, how **HIGH**, and how **DEEP** God's love really is. May you experience the Love of **CHRIST**, though it is so **GREAT** you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of **LIFE** and **POWER** that comes from God.
Ephesians 3:18-19

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Hand Lettering Samples

These samples are to give you ideas for fun hand lettering in this bible study.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Cc Dd Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj
Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu
Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo
Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj
Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt
Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff

Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq

Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Yy Zz

Names of Love

God ('El, 'Elohim)

*Most High God ('El 'Elyon) Most High
Highest*

*God of Gods, Lord of lords King of kings
High and Lofty One*

My Glory

Pride of Jacob

King of Glory

Father of Glory

Glory of Israel/Strength of Israel Light of Israel

Father of Lights

Former of All Things

God of All the Earth

God of heaven

God of heaven and earth

King of heaven

Lord of heaven and earth Maker

Maker of heaven and earth

My Maker

Potter

I AM THAT I AM

Yahweh

LORD

Everlasting God, Eternal God ('El 'Olam)

Everlasting Father

Introduction

Every year in America, billions of dollars are spent on Valentine's Day to express love to that special someone. I remember being in high school and watching the girls going to the office to claim the flowers that their prized stud muffin had saved his lawn mowing money to buy. Just for her to parade them around the cafeteria to show how adored she was, leaving us "un-loved" peasants to grovel among each other about how we didn't want flowers anyway.

The whole time, in our hearts, we were actually questioning, "Are we worthy of someone to love us like that too?" Where's our knight in shining armor to rescue us and parade us through the Kingdom crowning us with our "You are Loved" tiaras? Maybe you are still waiting for that man in your life.

My earthly knight in shining armor came just that summer. And I am married to him now. That man makes me feel like I am the queen of the castle daily. But, if I expect him to rescue me and I fall into the trap of believing I need him to make me feel like a worthy princess, then ladies, the road gets rockier here than a carriage trying to get home from the ball while the wheels are turning back into pumpkins!

So who is this real-life Valentine? The ONE who is standing right in front of us every second, holding a huge Love Letter that says "BE MINE" on the cover, and on every page? The one holding the flowers that will never wilt? I pray through this bible study, you will "experience His love, though it is so great you will never fully understand it."

Even though it cannot be measured, let's get a better idea...

*about just how **WIDE**, **LONG**, **DEEP**,
and **HIGH** it really is.*

How WIDE?

We are off to set out on a journey through the dimensions of God's love. Let's start out thinking about the word wide. When my kids were babies, I used to love singing "He's got the whole world in his hands" to them. In one verse, I would say, the whole WIDE world. Do you remember that part? The song took us through the whole world and then got smaller and smaller until it came to little ole' you. You are being held in the same hands that hold the earth, after creating it and suspending it on nothing.

The Greek word for wide in this passage can be translated as "extent," or "reaching to the corners of the earth." But there are no corners of the sphere of an earth we live on. The earth continually rotates and never stops. Round and round it goes.

It is the same with God's love. It is never ending. There is nothing we could do to ever make it stop. We could turn his invitation to be our forever Valentine down, time after time, and he would keep pursuing us. It will endure forever.

Let's start out on this journey with a mindset that God truly does love us with this "agape" love that we can't even comprehend. There is a passage in the bible that is used at almost every wedding that describes God's kind of love: 1 Corinthians 13. This agape love that can be translated as "charity" and "love feast!"

Make a commitment to hide these words in your heart, or memorize them every week during this month long study. We will always know the kind of love He has for us if we do this. No matter where we go or what we do, we will be able to know this kind of love that only God through His Spirit can perfectly give!

Let's study this passage below and make a "date" every week to meet back on Friday, with each section memorized, always building on the next. So that by the end of our four weeks together, we will know the kind of love our God offers us.

Week 1 Verse 4, including "not rude"

Week 2 Verse 5

Week 3 Verse 6

Week 4 Verse 7

Now let's dig into the Love Feast!!!

Remember, this passage teaches us the AGAPE love that only God's Spirit can purely give in its fullness.

! Corinthians 13:4-7

God's kind of love IS

God's kind of love is NOT

Now here comes a very fun, personal part of this study. We will be receiving and writing LOVE LETTERS to and from God!

Ladies-it's very important that you think of these letters in this way. I want you to experience God's love, alive and real, like it really is.

Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Let His Word speak in power directly to you, and you speak in prayer to the Lord through these letters. I have prayer journaled for years and it has kept my relationship with the Lord growing and strengthening.

Lastly, make these letters beautiful. The Lord's love for each of us is so unique, so rich, and personal. Let these letters symbolize that!

**Have fun using the hand-lettering samples in the introduction to make your penmanship reflect your heart for Him!*

**Address God as any term of endearment that your heart is stirring in you to call him. I love to do this in my journaling. He is such an intimate God, we will all relate to the different wonders of His person differently everyday. Use the list of "Names of Love" in the introduction to spark ideas, but you are not limited to those! Express your love for Him by calling Him sweet names that only the two of you will understand. All of these practices will lead your heart closer to the heart of God.*

So let's get started! I know he is smiling down, waiting patiently to give and receive the first love letters of this study.

I pray we know and grow in His Love!

Love Letter From God

This letter is from God to you. Write our theme verses for this study, Ephesians 3:18-19 out. Make this a beautiful treasure with creative hand lettering. Write your name on the addressee line. Change names and titles of God to first person pronouns (my, me). Make the signature at the bottom read the "Name of Love" (See Introduction) you most identify with at the moment. Let the words sink deep into your heart!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

1 John 4:16 tells us that "God is Love." Therefore, we are going to write this first love letter based on the verses we are memorizing, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. If God is love, then, these qualities are the very essence of who He is. Let's write out a love letter to him, adoring him with the adjectives that describe who he is, and who he is not. In place of "love," write "You." Address him in a term of endearment from the "Names of Love" list or from the secret of your heart. Sign your name at the closing. Make this a heartfelt Valentine to Love Himself.

Dear _____

Love,

How WIDE?

Have you ever heard the phrase, God loves you this much! And seen a picture of Jesus, hanging on the cross with his arms stretched wide? What a simple but profound explanation of His love. When a person holds their arms stretched out to embrace another person, they are offering their affection to them, and they are receiving the other person, in whatever condition they stand in at the moment, as worthy of themselves.

I want to revisit the meaning of the word “wide” as it is used in our theme passage to get a better understanding of the breadth or width of God’s love for us. It’s definition reads:

“carrying the suggestion with it of great extent.”

And

“to the ends or corners of the earth.”

Another place in scripture that we hear about this latitudinal measurement is in the passage we will study today:

Read Psalm 103:12-18

How far has Jesus removed our sins or transgressions away from us?

What kind of compassion does the Lord have for us?

He remembers that we are what?

What metaphor are our lives compared to?

What is this picture contrasted to? How long does it last?

Flowers are one of the most popular presents given to express love. We may get some this Valentines Day. We will quickly put them in water, to admire their beauty for a few short days. Then we will throw them out. God gives us this beautiful picture to remind us that our lives will quickly be over, but His love for us will last forever. Draw out a picture illustrating verses 17 and 18 below. Write the verses or summarize the most important words in the verses in a pretty hand lettering font as well. Make it a beautiful picture of God's never ending love for you.

Love Letter from God

This letter is from God to you. You may have known this verse since childhood, but personalize it this time. Let God speak it directly to your heart in a fresh way. Use a first person pronoun where God's or a second person pronoun is. Instead of world, insert "me." He came for YOU. Replace "whosoever" with "you." Use a beautiful font of hand lettering and sign it with a Name of God that you relate most closely to. Let your heart treasure these words!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

What a gift the Lord has given us in taking our sins so far away from us and giving us eternal life, if we will believe in Him! Your heart should be soaring with a greater understanding of the width of his love for you! Thank Him now for removing your sins from you, as far as the east is from the west! Address Love Himself with the Name of God of your choice. Make it heartfelt and beautiful. Write out a prayer of thankfulness based on Psalm 103:12 to God.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Wide?

I love studying the meaning of words. Especially words in the scripture. That makes me sound pretty dorky, huh? But the reason I love studying them is because it gives me such a richer understanding and application of the concepts that are being communicated. I hope my love for studying this way will rub off on you instead of rubbing you the wrong way!

Take this word “wide” in our theme verse for instance. We have defined it using its original Greek word used in scripture. Now we will look at how it is used in other verses of the bible.

In Ephesians 3:18, it is used in describing the width of God’s love.

In Revelation 20:9, it is used to describe the “broad plain of the earth” or the “breadth of the earth”

In Revelation 21:16 it is used to describe the width of the Holy City in heaven!!!

How awesome is it that the width of God’s love for you cannot be fully measured, as our theme verse of Ephesians 3:18 teaches us, but that it can be compared to the width of the earth, and the width of the walls of the New Jerusalem!

Let’s continue on gaining greater understanding of the width of God’s love in light of the width of the earth. Out of all the people on the earth, God chose you. Yes you. When Jesus came, he made it clear that the invitation to salvation was not just for people who could trace their lineage back to Abraham in the book of Genesis, but to ALL people.

Consider 2 Peter 2:9:

“The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.”

He wants you, yes you, to repent, or turn back to Him and find life and love.

Read Deuteronomy 7:6-11

This message was given to the nation of Israel, whom we are also known as if we believe in Him.

What kind of people are we?

Who has God chosen us out of?

What were we chosen to be?

Verse 7 says God did what even though Israel was the smallest of nations?

Verse 8 says for what two reasons did God rescue the Israelites from Egypt?

Verse 9 says He is what kind of God? How long does he keep His covenant (unconditional promise) and lavish His unfailing love on those included in it?

Verse 10 tells of the other end of the spectrum of God's passion. We cannot skip this truth. This is who God is. His love is amazing and available, but He also makes it clear that we must choose him back to find his mercy. If we don't, what does he say will happen?

Love Letter From God

The apostle Peter reminded us of these words in the New Testament. Let's receive them personally and refreshed from God. We are not forgotten. We are chosen, royal, holy, a special treasure to God! Now that is a Valentine worth receiving!!! You are the chosen daughter of the King of Kings, no matter how old you are! All you have to do is accept his love and love Him in return to receive this title. So hear it from Him, princess. Write 1 Peter 2:9 from Him, beautifully like the previous letters.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Offer up a prayer of praise, exalting God for this amazing love that chose you out of all the people of the earth to belong to Him. Write verse 9 as a letter to Him, saying that you understand that this is the good God that He is. Address him by one of His titles and make it pretty!

Dear _____,

Love,

How Wide?

We've studied His arms stretched wide on the cross removing our sins as far as the east is from the west, His love that chose us from the whole wide world to be his special treasure, and now we will study how his love is as wide and constant as the breadth of the earth.

When we were adopting our daughter from Uganda, a small country in East Africa, we drove a few hours to take a trip to the equator. We stood with one foot in the eastern hemisphere and one in the western hemisphere. And it was hot! Very, very hot!

I did some research about just how wide the world is. "The Earth's actual circumference at the equator is 40,075.16 kilometres (24,901.55 mi). That is a wide, wide earth girls!

If God's love is wide enough to encompass the whole world, then it is certainly broad enough to surround all of our worries and hold them in his arms.

Consider

1 Peter 5:7

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you"

Think about the strength God must have to be able to hold all the cares of every prayer of every person in the whole wide world, and still not grow tired or weary. Not only does he have the strength to hold all of your concerns, he also has arms wide enough to surround you, to hold you as he holds your concerns. Call me crazy, but many times when I go behind closed doors to pray to God my father, all by myself, I wrap my own arms around myself as a reminder of the Father who is holding me.

Read Matthew 11:28-30

Who is speaking in this passage?

Who does he invite to come to him?

What does he promise he will give you?

What does Jesus say to put on?

What is one role Jesus wants to take in our lives?

How does Jesus describe himself at heart?

What does he promise AGAIN?

How does his yoke (work load) fit?

Are his burdens heavy?

Ladies, Love's arms are wide and strong enough to take us into them, and take our burdens. He exchanges our worries for his perfectly fitting, light workload. He wants us to come to him and rest in those arms stretched out wide. On the cross they offered us forgiveness. In the prayer closet they offer us rest and comfort.

Love Letter from God

This is a good one ladies! Aren't we all tired and worn out from something? Jesus is standing there with his arms wide open, wanting to take the heaviness away and replace it with rest in his arms. Start with calling out to Him in a personal way that represents who He is to you. Refer to the Names of Love list if needed. Write out Matthew 11:28 in a restful way!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

This letter is going to be a bit different. You are going to write out 1 Peter 5:7 in a personal way to God. But keep letters small because you need to unload on Him! Let the verse be the start, and let every single weight in your heart transfer to Love's wide open arms. Don't forget, EVERYTHING. From the concerns that could start a tidal wave to the small worries that wouldn't cause a splash. Consider making this a habit every morning. See how you will literally float into the day afterwards. Oh my word He is GOOD!

Dear _____,

Love,

How Wide?

Yesterday we studied how Love's arms are open wide to take all our anxieties away and carry them for us. I can't tell you how many times I have handed my worries over to Jesus, but then raised my hand up to try to help him carry them. Stop it! He's got it. In fact, to help us remember not to take back our burdens, he opens his arms wide again to offer us everything that belongs to Him. Yes, everything. He wants to fill our arms with so many good gifts from him that we don't have room to carry the burdens as well.

Ephesians 1:3 Says, "How we praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we belong to Christ."

Did you get that? Let's break it down, because trust me, we don't want to miss it. God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in heaven. These spiritual blessings he has to give us will outlast the things on this earth that we spend so much time fretting over. Oh how I want to quit that already! Don't you? Let's see how we can continue to relax in Jesus's arms as he reaches them wide, offering to us everything we need in this life, and the next.

Read Matthew 6:25-30

Should we worry about everyday life?

How should the birds remind us of this truth?

How should the lilies and the grass remind you of this truth?

Who already knows what you need?

*Instead of worrying, what does God want us to do in verse 33?
(My favorite verse of scripture!)*

That's right, Love Himself promises to give us everything we need! Everything. His arms are open with the things we need today. Tomorrow, we will need to come back and see him. Because if he gave us what we needed for tomorrow today, we may just do our own thing. He loves us so much that he wants to give us fresh daily bread.

Below there is room to draw a picture of the birds, and lilies in the field to remind you that God will provide all your needs. Write out part of the passage that speaks the strongest to you in a pretty font to go with it.

Love Letter from God

Again, don't worry, Love Himself will provide everything you need today. His arms are stretched wide in love to give you everything you need for today, and everything you will need for eternity. His storehouse will never empty. Write to Philippians 4:19 in first person from God to you. Then sit back in his wide open arms and rest in the truths that have showed you a better glimpse of the width of his love this week!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out Matthew 6:33 to God, as a love letter of promise, committing to seek Him first, with your arms stretched out wide to Him everyday. This is how he promises we will be given everything we need. He is all we need. All we need. There is no love sweeter, nothing else will satisfy.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Long?

I'm going to now take you back to Language Arts class after we clear out of the cafeteria with our never wilting flower of God's Word sparkling in our hands. It is time to move on to studying a new dimension of His love this week.

As we have learned from our theme verse in Ephesians 3:18, we can only gain greater understandings of God's love, but we can't ever fully grasp it. So let's sit down for some more of the love feast, shall we?

How did memorizing 1 Corinthians 13:4 go last week? This week, we are memorizing verse 5:

"Love does not demand it's own way. It is not irritable, it keeps no record of when it has been wronged."

Remember that these are attributes of God's kind of love. Agape love. This is the kind of love we are studying the dimensions of.

Now back to how long his love is. When I studied the Greek Word that long was translated from, I saw that it is closely related to the word "great" as used in the greatest commandment. Its meanings include, "language used in shadowing forth the greatness, extent, and number of blessings from Christ."

By the time Jesus had come, the Jewish people had a very long list of rules or commandments to keep to be considered righteous. The man wanted to know which one was the most important.

Read Matthew 22:34-40

Why did the Pharisee ask him the upcoming question?

What was the question he asked? What was Jesus's answer in verse 37?

How is this commandment ranked in verse 38? (The word greatest here is the word that is closely connected the word "long" in our theme verse).

What is the second and equally important commandment?

What is based on these two commandments?

For a very long time, this verse was my starting place when praying for my loved ones. When I would start praying for one of them, the first thing I would pray was that they would love the Lord with more of their mind, heart, soul, and strength. But about a year ago, my prayers shifted.

My new "starting prayer" became Lord, help them have a greater understanding of how wide, long, high, and deep your love is for them! I made it my starting place for myself too.

I did this because I had realized that if we have a greater understanding of how much God loves us, we are going to have a greater and greater love for him in return. It is a natural response, an authentic movement of a heart to endear someone whom they know genuinely endears them. Doesn't that make sense sisters? We are going to keep the greatest commandment by growing in our knowledge of how much God loves us! I pray you are growing in your understanding of Love Himself through this study, and loving him more in return.

Love Letter From God

Let's try and have a greater understanding of our Creator's love for us. The very fact that you are reading these words right now testifies that Love Himself has been pursuing you. He has been drawing you towards himself. Doesn't it feel incredible to be desired by the one who spoke the world into being? Write Jeremiah 31:3, addressed to you. Let His Words overwhelm your heart.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out a prayer of commitment to God. Promising to continue growing in your love for him. Think about how you can address him in a new way in which you never have before. Write out Matthew 22:37 in a personal way, starting with the word "I." Go for it! Lord, help this letter be a true heart's cry that will be an ongoing process until we see you face to face.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Long?

One year I was part of a bible study on the topic of joy. We had a fun kick off party where we got together and decorated some "joy journals" and made them resemble pretty holy scrapbooks. In these joy journals, we were to make a list of all the gifts that we recognized God giving us, adding more and more everyday until they were full. This awareness of God's gifts were intended to spark joy in us. And it did.

Today we are exploring the length of God's love based off the definition of the word long as: the number of blessings received from Christ."

Girls, this is going to be a long, long list! Most of us could sit down and think of blessing after blessing that we have received from him. Let's look at some scripture to prepare our hearts for this long list of goodness.

Read James 1:17-18

What comes to us from God above?

What did he create, and how is he different from it?

In his goodness, what did he choose to make us?

Through what did he do this?

Out of all his creatures, where do we rank on his list?

Love Letter from God

We know how blessed we are, but do we always give credit to The One blessing us? Let's hear his word afresh as this letter from him reminds us of where all these good gifts are coming from. Write out James 1:17, as if God were speaking directly to you.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Let's enter his courts with thanksgiving! Write out Psalm 100:4-5 in a beautiful, personal way to Love Himself. Then make a long list underneath it of all the gifts he has given you. Drink in the love that he offers you, see the lengths of his love, evident in the length of your list.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Long?

Today we will look at length in terms of time. How long is God going to love us? This is a good question in light of how so many couples these days promise to love each other forever, only to go their separate ways.

We don't have to be anxious about the Lord throwing his hands up and walking away. His love will last forever.

Read Psalm 136

In the first three verses, what are the titles of God?

What phrase is repeated on the last line of each verse?

In verses four through nine, God's creation and miracles are praised. Which one is your favorite?

List some of the miracles God did for the nation of Israel when he delivered them from Egypt in verses 10-16:

What are some of the miracles God has done in your life to deliver you from slavery of sin? Thank him.

In verses 17-22, there is a call to thank God for leading his people into the promised land, defeating every power standing in their way. What does the promised land God is leading you to look like personally in your life right now?

List three things his steadfast love provides for us in verses 23-25.

One more time, how long does it say the God of heaven's love lasts in verse 26?

Recently we had a couple over to our house for pre-marital counseling. My husband was explaining to them how marriage vows are covenant vows, not contractual vows. You may be thinking, what is the difference?

When two parties sign a contract, it is a two-way agreement, stating that each person will keep their promises to one another as long as the requirements set forth in the terms are kept. They both sign it, and as long as both individuals fulfill the vows they are held accountable to the terms in the agreement. This is not a covenant promise. This is not the kind of love marriage vows represent, and this is not the kind of love our Heavenly Father offers us.

A covenant kind of love is the love God offers his beloveds! It is not contractual love, based on if we keep our promises to him. His love endures. It is a solemn, binding agreement that his love will last for you forever. Even if you don't hold up your end of the deal, his love endures. We will let him down. We are never going to be perfect until we get to heaven. All we have to do is keep turning back to him for forgiveness and love. And we will receive mercy, time after time.

Below are some synonyms for the word "endures." Put a heart shape around three of your favorites. Consider them the little conversation heart candies from Love Himself.

EVER everlasting OLD evermore ANCIENT
always LONG more CONTINUOUS
indefinite ETERNITY futurity PERPETUAL

Love Letter from God

It's time to receive a personalized version of Psalm 136 straight from the One True Lover of Your Soul. The psalm can be divided into four sections, so you personalize it that way. Declare his greatness over you, that He is the One True God. Declare his deliverance from any threats in your life. Declare his leading into the promised land he's leading you to. Declare his long lasting love for you with the three synonyms you heart circled on the previous page. Remember it's from God to you! Make the pronouns reflect it. This will be powerful!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

I don't know about you, but I am just overwhelmed with the enduring love of my Savior. In a world full of contracts, he makes a covenant of love with us that he will never break! Let's write out a beautiful love letter to him, based on Psalm 146:2, promising to love and praise him for as long as we live.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Long?

The average American takes around 5,000 steps per day. That's 35,000 steps a week and 1,820,000 steps a year. Now we are talking about walking a long, long way! Stretch out the steps you have taken in your lifetime thus far and it will make you tired just thinking about walking that long. For me, it's around 60,000,000 steps!

And just think, the Lord your God has been beside you walking with you, every step. Even when you didn't realize he was there, he was more faithful than ever.

Consider Psalm 22:10:

"I was thrust upon you at my birth, You have been my God from the moment I was born."

Read Leviticus 26:9-13

Earlier in this passage, the Lord has set up the boundaries for their safety on how to obey the commandments. This is under the old covenant. We are now under the new covenant of the blood of Christ.

What three things does God promise he will do in verse 9?

How many crops will they have?

Where will God live?

Where will God walk?

How has God freed them to walk?

Love Letter from God

What a promise! To enter into this covenant with God, we must believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus Christ is Lord. Then we will know he is walking with us. His love will go the distance, a long, long, way. Write out the promise of his presence walking with you from Leviticus 26:12.

Dear _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Now it's time to commit to a continued awareness of Love's presence, always there walking with you. Write out Colossians 2:6 to the Lord, vowing to continue following his footsteps wherever he leads you. It may be far, it may be rocky, but where the love of your life goes, you will go.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Long?

Sometimes the road home can seem so very long. I can hear my own inner child asking my father,

“Are we there yet?”

Then, other times, it can feel like this life is just flying by. That’s why today, I want us to look up some passages that help us understand how short this life is in contrast with eternity. Then we will know that most of the love God is going to be lavishing on us will be on the other side of this life.

Read Psalm 39:4-7

What does the psalmist, David ask God to remind him of?

Is there already a set number of days for our lives?

What does David use to compare the length of his life to?

How long is an entire lifetime to God?

What does he compare people to in verse 6 and what does our work end in?

Where does David decide to put his hope?

*Contrast this passage against Psalm 23:6
How long will we live in the house of God?*

Love Letter from God

Write out Psalm 23:6 as a sweet message to carry with you until you get home. Remember it is straight from God, so write it in first person. Use "my" for God and "you" for what had been David's "I."

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Send God a promise that you are putting all your hope in him as you follow Love Himself the long way home. Write Psalm 39:7 out to him. Address him in a sweet way only the two of you understand.

Dear _____,

Love,

How HIGH?

Last week we explored and gained a greater understanding of how wide God's love is. Now it's time to focus in on the dimension of how high it is. Keep in mind, like our theme verse tells us, we will never understand it fully, but we can grow in our understanding of his love every single day, without fully realizing it! This is my prayer for you as we continue this study. So let's get focused.

Who can recite 1 Corinthians 13:4-5? Great job! Now let's commit to memorizing verse 6 this week. The NLT reads: "It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out." I am glad that's who Love is.

Before I had kids I used to go out on my back porch at night and study my bible. Now all that has to go on in the morning, because at night I fall into bed exhausted. Can I get an amen?

Anyways, I was so crazy about Him, but I just couldn't understand how this bible thing all fit together. How were there giants back then? How did people live 100's of years in the book of Genesis? What about the dinosaurs? I just needed the proof. Then one day, I saw it. I saw it as clear as the stars and moon shinning above my head on a clear summer night.

It was the multi question answering that made all the puzzle pieces in my brain fit together. And I believe it is the perfect passage to start out exploring how high God's love is...

Read Isaiah 55:8-13

What two things are contrasted here as it pertains to us humans and God?

What analogy does God use to describe the expanse between them?

This is when I stopped and looked up at all those stars shining brightly and that moon just hanging there. And I got it. His ways are so high that I'm not going to understand it all right now. I can't, because we aren't on the same longitudinal level. His perfect thoughts and plans for creation, you and me are way up there. And we are, well, way down here. But we know He is good. He is love himself. So we can just trust him with those high thoughts and ways. He knows what he is doing. So let's continue...

When the rain and snow fall down, what do they produce?

When God sends out his word, what does it do?

A promise of things to come- beside each thing below, write what new things will spring up instead of death

Mountains and hills—

Trees-

Thorns-

Briers-

Who will this bring honor to?

Love Letter from God

This passage is already in first person. All you have to do is receive it, like it is directly to you from God. Because it is. He wants you to live in this truth. His ways are higher. Make Isaiah 55:8-9 write out like a personal reminder to you.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Okay ladies, we've been reminded, his love, his ways, are higher. We can't comprehend what He is doing. But we know He is good. So what does Love Himself want us to do? Trust Him. Let's tell him we are ready to do just that. Write out Proverbs 3:5-6. Insert "I" as the first word and make the pronouns where God is inferred read "You." Save room to write out specific situations you would commit to trusting over to his higher understanding that can be trusted!

My_____,

Love,

How HIGH?

Read Psalm 57:7-11

What is the condition of the psalmist, David's heart as he writes this psalm?

With a confident, fixed, or steadfast heart, what is David compelled to do (verse 7).

When does he wake up to offer this song to God?

Among whom will he sing these praises?

Who can you sing praises to God with?

How high does he say God's love and faithfulness is?

This is where it gets good ladies. We need to see where David was when he was singing these praises to God. If you read the beginning of this chapter, you will see that David was on the run from King Saul, hiding in a cave when the words to pen this song flooded his heart.

He could have laid down and groveled in the deep pit that his enemies had dug for him, deciding to give up fighting the good fight. He could have rolled around in the darkness of his own self pity and stayed there, defeated. Instead, he looked UP. Up to the heavens. I imagine him hiding in the cave, seeing a glimpse of sunlight peeking through, looking up to the clouds and believing God would deliver him from this pit. In 1 Samuel 22:1, the events of what was happening during his time in this cave are recorded. It records that his brothers and relatives, and many others joined him there, until David was the leader of about 400 men! No wonder his heart was confident in the Lord. He had trusted the Lord, he had believed that his God's ways were high enough to provide protection and provision in such a scary, dark place in his life.

Are there any situations in your life that are backing you into a cave? You have to get out of the negative darkness and look UP! Look up in the sky at those clouds today! Tell God below your commitment to look out and up to His wonders in the sky to remember how high his love reaches.

Love Letter from God

In first person, as though the Lord was speaking this directly to you, write out Psalm 57:10. Think about the dark situations in your life that need to hear this. Let this truth burst forth light there. This would be a fun one to also illustrate and draw the beauty of the clouds and sun shining through. Have fun with it! Let His love and light penetrate through the cracks in the caverns of your soul. Sign for Him the name or title that describes him in the way you are feeling close to him today.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Return a adoring letter to love Himself, by writing out Psalm 57:11, writing "I" instead of "be." Exalt him, lift him high in your heart. Keep writing to him, praying that he will be shine his glory through you in specific situations in your life.

Dear _____,

Love,

How High?

So far this week, we've learned that Love Himself's ways are higher than ours, so He can be trusted. Today, let's get studious with some word study on the Greek word used for "high" in our theme verse, Ephesians 3:18.

Some meanings of this word in its original language:

"altitude, the sky, dignity, to be exalted, height, high"

We've looked at the altitude of God's love through Psalm 57 yesterday. Today let's look at how God loves us with dignity, how he exalts us on high with him! Yes, I said he exalts us. We exalt and lift him higher and higher as we understand the pedestal of dignity he has set us upon as he sits back and adores us.

Let's start by looking at Ephesians 1:4-5.

How long ago did God love us and choose us?

In Christ, how does God see us?

Picture it ladies, you are on the pedestal dressed in the whitest, most beautiful gown that his grace as adorned you with.

What has his plan always been?

Adopted. We are his daughters! Which makes us...Princesses. Royalty. Exalted to a place of high honor. Beside our precious Savior, Love Himself.

Ephesians 2:6 —Where are we seated with Jesus?

A few times last year I got my little girls' friends together for what we called "princess bible study." It was so much fun! They were dressed in their pretty princesses gowns and tiaras. They learned from scripture how they are chosen, royal, holy, a special treasure to God (1 Peter 2:9).

Then, we acted out this verse from Ephesians 2:6. I set up the biggest chair in my house and draped it with a shiny purple sash, representing Jesus' throne. Then I set a pink velvety, diamond studded just-their-size chair beside it. They took turns walking up to their place of royalty in the heavenly places to have their picture taken!

Yes, it might be quite comical if I had all of you over and I drug my old formal dresses out of my closet and we took our turn posing and getting a picture taken of our position in Christ. We will let this illustration do for now!

This is the height of God's love for us. He wants us to walk down here knowing that our real place is up there. Right beside him. Adorned with beauty, with a special place right beside him that no one else can ever take away.

We don't lift ourselves high in earthly pride thinking we are better than others. Instead, we are humbled by his love.

As Jesus reminded us in Luke 14:11, "For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Let's back up a little and remember who gave us this exaltation:

According to Ephesians 2:4, for what two reasons did God do this?

Verse 5 says it's only by what that we are saved?

Love Letter from God

Can you hear him asking you to come and sit with him in the heavenly places? That's the invitation he is writing out to us in Ephesians 2:6, and the one we are going to write out here today. Add in the word "Come" and make the verbs present tense. He wants us to remember our royal position and saved status because of his great grace. His love takes us high with him, dignifying us, exalting us as we humble ourselves under Love Himself.

My _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write James 4:10 as a position of your heart. Kneel before your king. Write it in present tense, in a way that shows you are humbling yourself before him now.

Dear _____,

Love,

How High?

Let's stay studious today and look at another passage in scripture where the Greek word used for "high" in our theme verse is used again.

Read Luke 24:49. The word used for "heaven" here is the same word used for how high God's love is in Ephesians 3:18.

Let's back it up and see why we will need this high power from heaven in our lives.

Read Luke 24:44-49

This is Jesus speaking to the disciples here. What did he say he told them about?

This next part is very interesting...what Jesus do next so they would be able to understand?

What was written long ago?

Where are the disciples supposed to take this message?

What is available to all who turn to him?

They are told to stay there until what comes?

What will it fill them with?

Some translations read, "clothed with the power from high."

How does this show us how high his love is? This is how, ladies: God has put his own Spirit into our souls since the day you checked that box marked yes instead of no when he slipped you the Love note that read:

I love you Do you love me?

Check Yes or NO

He loves us so much, he wanted to give us His power. The greek word for this power is "dynamis" and sounds a great deal like "dynamite!" That is no coincidence, friends, I mean we are talking about the power of heaven here. The highest power there is.

Synonyms for this word include: "strength, mighty work, miracle, virtue, and might."

I don't know about you, but it gets me excited thinking that Love Himself gives me all this power. It makes me want to take the high road. It makes me want to get out there and fulfill the great commission, just as Jesus charged us to do in our passage today. My fingers are typing faster right now just pondering the power from high running through my veins right this second. What a Valentines' gift the power of heaven is. Man, he is good.

Love Letter from God

Let's hear it again from God Himself. Let's hear the truth that his love that is so high, gave us the power from on high. Write Acts 1:8 the way it is written, but change the geographic locations from Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria to where you live and love others with God's love.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Let's lift God high, exalt him for this great power he gives us. Write out Psalm 21:13 to Him directly. Choose a way to address him that fits how your heart is feeling about him. Refer to the Names of Love list in the introduction if needed. Try making the words look like what they sound like. For instance, big sturdy letters for "strength." Have fun with it! God will love it.

Dear _____,

Love,

How High?

Yesterday we studied how God loved us so much that he gave us the Holy Spirit, the power from high. He comes and lives in us from the moment we tell him we love him. The bible teaches so much about all that the Holy Spirit is and does for us, in us, and through us.

Today, we are going to focus in on the truth that the Holy Spirit's presence inside of us guarantees we will never walk alone. Some days we may feel like those dejected girls in the lunch cafeteria, with no roses and no knight in armor in sight. But we are wrong. He is always with us.

Read Romans 8:35-39

What question is posed at the beginning of the passage?

What are some of the situations mentioned that could cause us to question God's love for us?

Verse 37 holds the answer. What is ours through Christ?

Can anything separate us from God's love?

List some specific things Paul mentions in verse 38 and 39 that cannot separate us from his love.

Love Letter from God

Write out Romans 8:39 in wording that makes sense if this is a letter from Love's own lips straight to you. Draw or paint some of the scenery described here. Use a combination of hand lettering fonts, and sizes to make it a beautiful letter that will stick in your heart and mind!

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out Romans 8:37 as a prayer of Thanksgiving to God. Use first person pronouns for you and second person pronouns for God. Let's end this week of studying the height of God's love powerfully by claiming victory in the name of Jesus.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Deep?

We have reached the last dimension of God's love! Let's explore greater depths of Love Himself this week. But first, let's revisit our memory passage, making sure we are hiding the attributes of His love in our hearts.

So far we should have 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 memorized! Way to go! Today we will start working on verse 7:

"Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance."

Write it out and rehearse it aloud everyday this week. Rehearse aloud beginning with verse 4. You will have the passage memorized by Friday, and you will always be able to meditate on His love, no matter where you are!

Now, on to better understanding the depths of His love.

Read Romans 5:6-8

When did Christ come to save us?

What did He do for us?

Would most people die for a good person?

How did God show His great love for us?

Did you have to clean yourself up before He died for you? Think about the time in your life when you were far from God. The farthest, darkest place where you thought light couldn't reach. Here's what he says to that:

"I Loved You at Your Darkest."

The greatest depth from where you were in your sin to the greatest height where Jesus was in heaven was not too far for Him to travel. Where you were farthest away from God is where He found you and pursued you more lovingly than any man ever could. If that would have been the moment in history when Jesus decided to go to the cross, he would have..

"But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ." Ephesians 2:13

Jesus is the Valentine who would have found the meanest girl in school. The one who bullied everyone and only got flowers from boys because they were afraid of her. He would have served her detention for her and then taken her out on the date of her dreams, being the perfect gentleman.

Think about the time in your life that seemed the darkest, filled with sin. Now let the depth of Christ's love meet you there, and love you so much that he bled to death. His blood continues to bring beauty from ashes in your life. He's standing there now, beaconing you to come and listen to His Words. He has words of love and life to speak new to you today. Remember the first time He called your name, out of the darkness into His marvelous light. He feels the same love for you today as he did then. He wants you to remember!

Love Letter From God

This letter is from God to you. Write Romans 5:8 out, changing the Names for Christ into first person, so that the verses read like Jesus is speaking them directly to you, his beloved. Write your name below.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out a special name for God on the line below. Then, rewrite Romans 5:6 in your own words. Make this a beautiful treasure, with creative hand lettering as you offer up this heartfelt prayer of thanksgiving for the depth that Jesus crossed from his throne on high to your lowest place to rescue you! Now THAT IS LOVE!

Dear _____,

Love,

How Deep?

After Jesus found us at our darkest, He invited us to join him in his work. He takes us out to DEEP waters to experience Him and join him in the work He is doing.

Read Luke 5:1-11

Where was Jesus and what was he doing?

Whose boat did Jesus get into and why?

After He finished speaking, what did Jesus tell Simon to do, and why?

What was Simon's initial response?

What was the outcome of Simon accepting Jesus' advice?

Describe Simon Peter's demeanor when the flood of fish came in:

Jesus invited Him to follow Him to fish for what?

What does the final verse say they left when they followed Jesus?

The word DEEP in verse 4 is the same Greek Word used in our theme verse, Ephesians 3:18. This dimension of God's love calls us out onto the deep waters. These waters may be scary. These waters may seem unpredictable, tossed by the wind, far away from the comfort of the shore. Our feet will not seem like they are on solid ground when we get there.

But Love Himself will be in the boat with us. When we get in the boat with him, following his lead out onto the deep waters, we will share with him the adventures our hearts were created to experience with Him, the creator and lover of our souls. Away from all familiar, He will be our only familiar. Every fear we have will fade as we look to Him, sitting right across from us in the boat.

Love doesn't send us out with a fishing pole and a coordinate. He sends us out with Himself. For Him, having our company as He invites others to join us is just as fun as fishing itself.

Think about that for a moment. The God who created the universe wants to spend everyday with you. He wants YOU to be a part of the work of spreading His good news about salvation and everlasting life! That sounds like the best date invitation a girl could ever receive! You do not want to miss out on this experience your heart was made for: the experience of a princess to know Her King. Do not delay. Hear the invitation afresh this day. Rise up, take His hand, and follow Him everywhere you walk today and everyday, whether the waters are peaceful or rocky, His presence will make the ride amazing!

Love's Invitation

Is the Lord calling you out onto waters that may be deep? Is he asking you to stay where you are? Pray about it, ask him to reveal to you his current and near future plans so you can follow him there.

Where: _____

What special work does he have for you to complete with him?

What _____

What plans do you need to put into action to take steps with him toward this special assignment? Or how can you refocus if you are already there?

How _____

Choose to go with the Lord on this special assignment, walking in obedience with him step by step. The depths you will experience with him will be knowing him more closely.

Commit _____

Love Letter from God

This letter is from God to you. Write Song of Solomon 2:10 out, so that it reads as an invitation from Love Himself speaking directly to you, his beloved. Write your name below. Sign it with a title of God that fits this promise.

Dear _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out a special name for God on the line below. Make this a beautiful treasure, with creative hand lettering as you offer up Luke 9:57, starting with the word "I" as a heartfelt commitment to follow Jesus, even if he calls you out onto the deep waters to serve him. First count the cost. Know that the reward of knowing Jesus will surpass the expense of anything you leave behind.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Deep?

Yesterday we studied a passage about how Our Perfect Valentine, Love Himself, loved us and chose us when we were still sinners, when we were at our darkest, when we didn't think we could be found. Not only did he show up with never-wilting flowers, He took our punishment for all the wrong we had done, letting us off the hook and showering us with his love with one expectation, that we accept his invitation to let him be the love of our lives, to walk with him the rest of our days.

Today we are going to talk about when he asks us to come somewhere with him that we really just don't want to go! Maybe us married or dating ladies can relate. We are happy our husband or boyfriend made plans for us, but we aren't too thrilled about the destination or the activities planned. This is what happened to Jonah. God told him to go to Nineveh. Whenever God calls us to a special work, we can be sure he will meet us there and we will experience an amazing adventure with him. But Jonah just didn't like what God was planning!

In fact, he ran away from God, from the appointment God had planned for him. Ladies, this is never good. God knows what is best for us. But we all find ourselves trying to talk God into our plans sometimes, don't we?

Things were not going well for Jonah. He was on a ship headed his own way when he was thrown into the deep sea. He was down in darkest depths of the ocean where hardly any light breaks through the water. He finds himself in the belly of a fish. But he knows whom he can call on.

Read Jonah 2

(Verses 1-3)

Where was Jonah when he prayed this prayer?

(Verse 4) Where did Jonah look to for help?

(Verses 5-6) Describe the depths that Jonah had gone down into:

(Verses 7-9) From the depths of the ocean where Jonah was, did God hear his prayer?

You see ladies, the depth of His love reaches so low down, that Jonah was literally at death's door at the bottom of the sea. God heard him and gave him a second chance. He will do the same for you, again and again. This is the DEPTH of His Love! How magnificent is He?! We can turn down his invitation, go the opposite direction, and end up at the floor of the ocean, yet He will hear us, and in his DEEP love, we will receive mercy from him!

Love Letter From God

This letter is from God to you. Write Isaiah 43:2 out, so that it reads as a promise from Love Himself speaking directly to you, his beloved. Write your name below. Sign it with a title of God that fits this promise.

Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out a special name for God on the line below. Make this a beautiful treasure, with creative hand lettering as you offer up Jonah 2:2 as heartfelt prayer. Make it in future tense, so that you will remember when you find yourself in deep distress, his love has depths that will always hear you!

Dear _____,

Love,

How Deep?

So we have made up our minds, accepted the invitation from Love Himself. We are in the boat. What will we experience when we are out on the deep waters with Him, fishing for people? I've been out deep-water fishing with Jesus. Here is the secret I have learned that we will explore in the next passage: He only allows the wind and the waves to rock the boat so that we will reach out for Him, jump in his lap and hold on. He will only allow the wild wind to blow as long as it takes for the purpose he has behind the storm to be fulfilled.

What is the purpose? Why does he allow us to endure these storms when we have vowed our lives and our hearts to him? It would be so much easier to endure them if we knew what kind of eternal good they were producing in the moments of pain and fear!

One day, in heaven, we will see and know what lasting good came from the storms we had ride through.

1 Corinthians 13:12

"Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely."

If we knew during the storm, would we cling to him? Would we get to know Him more deeply? Or would we trust on our own understanding? The depths of His love are just as deep as the depths of His understanding. They cannot be measured. One thing we can be sure of, they are good. He will not have us endure anything without our eternal good in mind.

Read Romans 11:33-36

The word “deep” in verse 33 is the same Greek word used in our theme verse, Ephesians 3:18. Paul sets us up to explore the depth of two things. What are they?

Is it possible for our minds to fully comprehend this God of ours?

What three questions does Paul pose next to further provoke us to search depths of our God’s unending knowledge and love?

Put verse 36 into your own words below.

Love Letter from God

This letter is from God to you. Write Isaiah 40:28 out, so that it reads as a reminder from Love Himself speaking directly to you, his beloved about the depths of His love, understanding, and strength. Sign it with a title of God that fits this reminder.

My Beloved _____,

Love,

Love Letter to God

Write out a special name for God on the line below. Make this a beautiful treasure, with creative hand lettering as you offer up Romans 11:33 as a prayer of praise for the depths of his understanding. Let this truth overtake any fears about any deep waters you will ever experience.

Dear _____,

Love,

How Deep?

“And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how WIDE, how LONG, how HIGH, and how DEEP his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully...”

As we learned previously, we will not be able to fully understand the dimensions of God’s love for us on this side heaven. But He has given us a reminder in His Word of how his love points to heaven.

Each of these words, with the exception of one, are used to describe the measurements of the heavenly city we will live in forever with Jesus one day.

God’s word blows me away. Each of these three words, in their original Greek language, are used very few times in scripture. They are words used both to describe the measure of love God has for us, and to measure the walls that will encompass us forever in a place more amazing than we could ever imagine.

This is a place where we will be with Him, in the FULLNESS OF HIS GLORY. We will know the full measure of His love there. For that reason, the only measurement that carried deep pain with it, where He met us on earth, where He found us in our deepest, darkest sin, is not used to describe this place!!!

Instead, in Revelation, the foretelling of the final things of time, this same Greek word for “deep is used to describe Satan’s depth.”

Read Revelation 21

Where were the old heaven and earth? Where was the deep sea?

How does verse 2 describe how the Holy City looked?

Where is God's home now, in verse 3?

What promise does verse 4 hold?

What will the One, Love Himself, say from His throne? Include what he addresses to those who have believed Him and those whom have not (Verses 5-7)

How is the holy city described in verses 10-14?

Here is where we see 3 of the 4 dimensions we've studied to measure God's great love for us! How long, wide, and high will the city be?

How thick will the walls be, and describe some of the beautiful gems that will be used:

How many gates will there be, and describe their beauty:

Is there a temple? Why not?

Who will and will not be able to enter these beautiful gates?

And now to see where the word for DEEP is used in Revelation:

Read Revelation 2:24:

What have the people in the church of Thyatira falsely believed?

Read Revelation 20:10

Where is Satan thrown, and what will his punishment be?

You see, our knight in shining armor has come!!! He rides in on a white horse (Revelation 19:11) to bring us the fairy tale ending we are hoping for! Love Himself will come win the battle to save us and carry us off to live in a palace with beauty we can't even imagine!

The Last Love Letter from God

*This letter is from God to you. Write out Revelation 21:5-6, starting with "look." Make this a beautiful treasure, with creative hand lettering. Sign it with a title of God that fits this reminder. *For extra cherishing, draw the setting around the borders of the letter. Use the colors described to draw the beautiful walls and gates of the heavenly city Jesus will one day be speaking these words to you in!*

My Beloved _____,

Love,

My Last Love Letter to God-Forever More

This is a taste, a glimpse, of the worship our hearts will be singing all day everyday as we are finally in the fullness of his love! Our hearts will overflow with goodness in the presence of our Savior, our love, every second, for eternity. Write this out beautifully. Treasure it as a foreshadowing of things to come! Revelation 4:8, starting with "Holy."

My _____,

Love,