

**Spiritual How-to's**  
**How to please the Lord**  
**Let Him love you**  
**Debbie Chaney**

**Intro. Sometime in the early 1980's I heard the most haunting song on the radio. It was a chilling, vulnerable cry... it gripped me, it was my cry!**

Let me tell you it's story so you can guess what it was. (see separate sheet)

Foreigner's "I Want to Know What Love is"

**I. "I want to know what love is" resonated with listeners because it is a universal, chilling and vulnerable cry from every heart.**

**A.** It is even supported in scripture – **Pro. 19:22** says, "What a man desires is unfailing love." NIV

1. Our desire for love - to be loved and know love is at the core of our being.

2. It is the number one psychological need of every human, following only our basic physical needs, according to Maslow

**B.** Human kind was created with the **innate desire to know what love is.**

**II. I can tell you. God is love. 1 Jn. 4:8** God is an invisible, (Jn. 1:18) spirit, (Jn. 4:24) that is the very essence LOVE. He doesn't just love, He is the fullness of what love really is. His character and nature is love.

**A. So, what does love look like? How does it act? What is this God Spirit like?**

**B. 1 Cor. 13:4-8** lists these as the characteristics of love:

- a. patient Neh. 9:31; 2 Pet. 3:9
- b. kind Rom. 2:4
- c. is not envious Is. 45:5
- d. isn't boastful Ps. 19:1
- c. does not dishonor others Ezk. 18:30-32
- d. is not self-seeking Phil. 2:5-8
- e. isn't easily angered Ps. 103:8
- f. keeps no record of wrongs Heb. 8:12
- g. doesn't delight in evil Ps. 5:4
- h. rejoices with truth Pro. 12:22
- i. always protects Is. 41:10-13
- j. always trusts Heb. 6:10
- k. always hopes 2 Pet. 3:9
- l. always perseveres Is. 54:10
- m. never fails Neh. 9:45

Our amazing God loves us  
this way!

**C. THIS is what our heart seeks to know and experience.**

a. THIS is the love that Foreigner was longing for and singing about.

b. Could THIS God of love have been the “higher force” that wrote the song through Mitch?

c. Could this God of love be “what a man desires”, as in Proverbs?

d. In my view, undoubtedly yes.

D. Just like earthly parents bear children out of love, so too, God is love and created us, His children by that love.

a. We are born again by His love. Jn. 3:3-8, 16

b. He takes pleasure in us. Rev. 4:11 KJV

III. We are the object of His love, **allowing Him to love us brings Him pleasure**, just as a earthly Father loves and takes pleasure in his child. Rev. 4:11

A. Experiencing God’s love is overwhelming, and we cannot fully understand it. Eph. 3:18-19

B. In addition to the characteristics listed earlier found in 1 Corinthians 13, scripture includes **these characteristics of how God loves us:**

1. with unfailing love Ps. 36:7; 109:26; 13:5; 103:1-22; 117:1-2; 143:8; 90:14; Job 10:12; Isa. 54:10

2. merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love & faithfulness Ex. 34:6

- this is the most quoted verse in the Bible

3. ready to forgive, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love Neh. 9:17

4. He loves us fully Hos. 14:4

5. unfailing Ps. 36:5-7

6. just as I am Rom. 5:8

7. enough to discipline us 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Pro. 3:11-12; Deut. 8:5; Heb. 12:5-11

8. enough to make us holy like Him 1 Pet. 1:16; Rev. 4:8; Heb. 12:14; Eph. 1:14; Rom. 3:23; 1 Thes. 4:7

C. **God is holy and just and His justice calls out for sins punishment. But His love, forbearance, longsuffering, kindness, goodness and mercy allows Him to be slow to anger with us as we change and become like Him.**

1. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. His kindness is what leads us to repentance and wanting to change Rom. 2:4

D. It is precisely because of His love for us that He disciplines us as His child. See the above verses

1. What father doesn’t have standards and values for their children to live by?

2. What father doesn’t aim to model and teach moral and ethical right and wrong?

3. The Lord disciplines every child He loves Heb. 12:6

IV. God loves you, He loves me. Nothing can separate us from His love Romans 8 tells us.

A. Just like kids can rebel against their parents, so too, can we rebel against God’s love and ways. Num 27:14; 1 Sam. 15:22-23; Ezk.2:8; Ps. 5:10; Dan. 9:5-9

- B. We can choose to submit to God's love and ways or we can rebel against Him
  - 1. The consequences of this without any repentance will end in final judgment being banished from His presence for eternity
  - 2. But His longsuffering love displays His bearing for us as we change
- C. We all desire and were created for God's unfailing, unbelievable, amazing love.
- D. You wanna know what love is, (as Foreigner sang), let God love you more.
  - 1. It is a choice that you alone can make
  - 2. It is one that He takes pleasure in, as you open up to His love.

Underdebraspalm.com

[Underdebraspalm.com](http://Underdebraspalm.com)