

# How To Love God More

## *Jack and Trisha Frost*

I have found that people with a strong background in religious indoctrination have found it very difficult for their minds to believe Father loves them unconditionally. People want to do something in order to earn His love and blessing. This article is not a test, but it is worded in such a way as to make each person re-evaluate his current belief structure. No matter what we believe, if it is not in line with the truths of God's word, then what seems to be true may be a lie. If we believe a lie, then we are in bondage to it, and it makes it very difficult for us to be comfortable with Father's love for us. What truths will help us to love God more?



Which do you think brings the greatest joy to God?

- a) Loving God less
- b) Loving God more

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and foremost commandment." (Matthew 22:37, 38)

Which is most likely to motivate you to love God more?

- a) A constant fear of failing in God's eyes and thus feeling He rejects or abandons you
- b) Knowing that God is never ashamed of your mistakes and He will never leave or forsake you

My child, I am always with you and all that is mine is yours. I am not ashamed to be your God. I will never leave nor forsake you. (Luke 15:31; Hebrews 11:16; 13:5, paraphrased)

Which is most likely to compel you towards a lifestyle of purity and devotion to God?

- a) Loving God less
- b) Loving God more

"See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us. That we should be called children of God; and such we are... And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself just as He is pure." (1 John 3:1, 3)

If you knew God wanted to most express His unconditional love and acceptance to you when you failed the most, thus setting you free from fearing His punishment, would that cause you to:

- a) Love God less?

b) Love God more?

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment; and the one who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because He first loved us." (1 John 4:18, 19)

Which teaching is most likely to cause you to love God more?

a) God will be faithful to you only if you are faithful to Him.

b) God's love for you is so forgiving and compassionate that He is still faithful to you even when you are not faithful to Him. His commitment to you is greater than your commitment to Him.

"If we are faithless, He remains faithful for He cannot deny Himself. If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God." (2 Timothy 2:13; Romans 3:3)

Which would give you more respect and admiration for God?

a) God has His favorites and only blesses those who never let Him down.

b) God plays no favorites and shows His love and concern for the needs of everyone, no matter how much they fail.

"If you show partiality you are committing sin... God is not one to show partiality. If anyone hears His sayings, and does not keep them, He does not judge him; for He did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (James 2:9; Acts 10:34; John 12:47; Luke 6:35, 36)

If a teaching causes you to love, trust, and respect God more, would that teaching originate from:

a) Satan?

b) God?

"Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste..." "For even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness." (Matthew 12:25; 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15) "So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith (not works); and that you, being rooted and grounded in love... may know the love of Christ." (Ephesians 3:17-19)

Which would most likely cause you to accept Christianity?

a) Christians who imply that you must match up to what they define as acceptable religious behavior and standards before you are made to feel like you belong and are accepted in their presence

b) Christians who make you feel valued and that you belong by accepting you unconditionally and do not require you to conform to their way of talking, acting, and thinking when in their presence

"Many tax-gatherers and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, 'Why is your Teacher eating with the tax-gatherers and sinners?' But when He heard this, He said, 'It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this

means, I desire compassion, and not sacrifice, for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'" (Matthew 9:10-13)

Which is most likely to motivate you towards a lifestyle of self-sacrifice and service?

a) A harsh taskmaster who treats you like a hired hand and demands you meet up to his rigid expectations of you; one who gives you very little praise and affirmation and punishes you each time you err.

b) A merciful, loving, caring, forgiving, compassionate Father who is willing to die for a relationship with you

"But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)... For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:4, 5, 10)

Which view is most accurate as to why people might find it difficult to accept that, in Christ, God unconditionally loves and accepts them?

a) God really is the harsh policeman of mankind and He is quick to judge and condemn each of our failures.

b) The root system of a person's life experiences, relationships, and religious understanding possibly cause them to interpret the Bible and see God through a filter of hurt, disappointment, anger, and/or judgmentalism.

"I speak the things which I have seen with My Father, therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father.'" "The Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin." (John 8:38; Exodus 34:6, 7)

If our image of God is that He is impersonable, impatient, and judgmental of our faults, fears, and lack of faith, then which of these may describe how a person is likely to seek love, acceptance, and security (man's basic emotional needs)?

a) He may compete with others for love and acceptance. This may lead to jealousy and selfish ambition, which begins with comparisons (self-rejection) and rivalry, and then moves to character assassination of others.

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing." (James 3:16)

b) He may try to impress God, others, and/or himself with hyper-religious activity. This may lead to a lack of grace for others not as diligent and disciplined as they. Or, he may end up in weariness or spiritual burnout.

"How can you believe (walk in faith), when you receive glory from one another, and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God?" "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast." (John 5:44; Ephesians 2:8, 9)

c) He may seek out counterfeit affections and find comfort or security in people, places, or things. This may lead to emotionally dependent relationships, immorality, lusts, addictions, compulsions, escapism, or "workaholism."

“Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness...” “For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 6:33; Romans 14:17)

d) Any combination or all of the above.

If our true image of God as our Father in our inner man is that of His being personally involved in every aspect of our lives and He is merciful, loving, affectionate, forgiving, compassionate, full of grace, and will never leave nor forsake us, then which of the following will most likely be true?

a) We will love God more.

b) We will love others more.

c) Unity will be a natural result.

d) We will find deeper rest, peace, and contentment.

e) Anxieties, fears and insecurities will begin to fade away.

f) We will run to God when we fail and not away from Him.

g) We will no longer experience shame and self-condemnation.

h) We will overcome the evil one and oppression will be broken.

i) We will experience greater spiritual, emotional, and physical health.

j) We will live our lives seeking to give God’s love away to others.

k) The world will slowly begin to experience revival through us.

l) All of the above.

(Matthew 22:37-40; 1 John 4:7-21; 5:4,14,15,18,19; John 13:34,35; 14:8; 16:27; 17:21-26; Hebrews 4:9-12; 11:16; Romans 8:1,15,31-39; Luke 15:18-20; 3 John 2)

There is nothing a baby can do to be loved but receive the love. There is nothing you can do to be loved by God any more than He loves you right now. There is nothing you can do for Him to love you any less. You are never far from Him (Acts 17:27). “I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.” (Jeremiah 31:3)

In the Father’s love,

Jack & Trisha Frost

### **For further study**

We recommend [You Are Father God’s Happy Thought DVD, I Am Father’s Happy Thought bookmark](#).

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