

God's Passion: Reconciliation For the Lost Sheep - Day 5



The passion of God reached out and blessed us with fullness of life and a love like no other. God's reconciling love. Our Lord's love is our perfect example, and we now set our hearts to love Him back. His passion for the lost becomes our passion. What better way than to take the words of Jesus to Peter and for us to seek to love and care for His beloved sheep?

Jesus repeated the question: "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know I love you."

"Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said. - John 21:16

If we discover just the tip of the iceberg of the reality of the love of God, we find something incredible. He delights when we see that even when we were far from Him, His heart always ached for us to be near Him. He took extraordinary lengths through the sacrifice of the cross to restore humanity's broken relationship with Him, to bring it back to the place of intimacy, trust, love, and closeness. When we became Christians, we allowed our lives to be restored through Jesus to the One who loves us deeply. As we accept the gift of restoration, we become increasingly aware of the heartbreaking situation that has been undone. God's beloved are reinstated as His proper children. Ever since the relationship was broken with His created children, He has been longing, waiting, desperately hoping for it to be restored. Although the original bond was broken, His heart of love for each person never stopped. As with the father of the prodigal son, our Father's love is unwavering, and He waits for relationship restoration with each lost child, every one of His created people.

Once we are reconciled and personally know the love of the Father, we feel His heartbreak over our previous state of separation. As a natural outcome, we will want to do whatever it takes to help restore as many others as possible to our Father's heart. His desire is not in question. Scripture says God's will is that no one should perish (2 Peter 3:9).

We love God well when, like Peter, we love His sheep and take care of His lambs by doing whatever He calls us to do in order to facilitate reconciliation. We bless our Father with love when we seek to be His hands, feet, and heart, to make visible in this world His powerful, enduring love. To love Him well, may we go and love, just as He loved us.

Prayer

*Thank you, God of passion for your aching heart.
Reinstatement of relationship with you;
and restoration of my brokenness began with an ache.
My heart, now aches for the lost and broken lambs.
Your ache is in me. I am grateful!
Amen.*