

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson (edits by Pastor)]

To judge from the news last Sunday and this past week, the entire country was mesmerized by a football game that was played in Atlanta. And the media is probably right – except, of course, for the small minority of people who are not football fans. Or maybe those whose teams got beat by the Los Angeles Rams and the New England Patriots in order for them to get to Atlanta. Otherwise, somewhere in the vicinity of 105 million Americans had their TVs tuned to a game where large men strapped on their helmets and armor and beat on each other for 3 hours over an oblong sized piece of leather.

Now to the real question. **Does God get concerned with the things that concern us?** Obviously, we can't expect Him to root for a single football team, especially since there are Christian believers on just about every football team in the NFL and college. But what about when we pray for Him to help us find the kind of car we want, or the kind of house in the kind of neighborhood we want? What about when we ask Him to help us get a raise or a promotion? What about if we ask Him to help a candidate we like get elected? **Does God care about that stuff?**

You're sitting there going, "*Noooooo!! I don't think God gets involved with all that.*" But you know you pray about it (if you're the type to pray a lot). Or maybe you would say, "*Yes, God cares about what we care about.*" In which case we have another very complicated problem, don't we?

Maybe the bottom line isn't whether God cares about what we care about. **Maybe the bottom line is whether we care about what He cares about.** No elaboration needed.

Coming full circle, here's some reality and some conjecture. If He paid His cable bill, God will probably have access to the Superbowl. Whether He tunes in for the Maroon 5 half-time show or not (He's way too intelligent for that) – that might be a matter of conjecture. And while 105 million of us are watching a sporting event, 7,150,000,000 other citizens of this planet will be engaged in some other kind of activity. **And He will be watching every single one.** Experiencing the hopes and dreams and hurt and joy of each. **You included!!**



Women's Bible Study – February 14th at 6:00 pm at the church. We will be studying Gideon. Come and learn from this man of God.

Wednesday Bible Study – the Book of Romans and our children's program. Come study God's Word while your children enjoy learning together.

Promoting Our Church – please take a flyer on the table in the foyer and use it to promote our church. God bless our efforts!

Mission's Sunday – the 24th of February we will be enjoying the ministry of the Benecasa family, missionaries to Italy.

Women's Ministry Spring Event – Saturday, April 6th 10 AM at Life for the Nations Church, (formerly First Assembly of God Albany). \$10 registration or \$22 with lunch. More info to come!

Iron Sharpens Iron – Attention men! We will be attending the conference on April 6th as a group. Please sign-up on the table in foyer and join us. This one-day conference is for men of all ages; beginning with men ages 13 and older. The cost is \$53 per person. There will be sixteen different seminars so we know there will be something for every one of us. Pick up a conference brochure on the table in the foyer as you sign up.

Welcome!

February 10, 2019



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Unity in Prayer in our homes
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;
Kid's Club & Youth
Prayer ½ hour before services

SERMON NOTES

THE LOVE OF GOD – PART 1

TEXT: 1 John 4:16; Ephesians 5:2

Some Christians never experienced the _____ that _____
God's love brings to the heart!

I. THE _____

We can never understand God's love until we get to the point where we are willing to _____ what we are and where we are.

The fact is, God did not save us to have us to live in _____ and _____.
John 5:24; Romans 8:1

All guilt and condemnation are clearly of the _____. 1 Timothy 3:6; Romans 8:34; John 3:19

Condemnation remains only for those who _____ sin and _____ darkness! Ephesians 3:14–21

The _____ of God's love for us is the foundational _____ upon which all other truths must be built!

II. THE SOURCE

We cannot divorce God's _____ from His love.
John 3:16

His love is _____ to His riches in glory – His bountiful provisions for us!

The Bible says our love for the Lord is shown by our _____ to Him and His Word.

His love for us is evidenced in another way – by His _____!
Colossians 1:19-20; 2:9-10

"In Him we have all provisions – _____ we need!"

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