

March 12<sup>th</sup> 2020

John 4:16-19

"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us."

What a comfort and joy it is to be loved by our Heavenly Father. In His love, we can step forward and have the confidence to share this unconditional love with our neighbors. Living in Christ, along with Christ living in us, gives us a desire to grow. As we grow, we take the responsibility, as instructed by God, to love the poor, the lost, and the lonely and to be known by our neighbors.

I have felt God's love through times of struggle. I know that He was present when I have felt totally alone. He was with me when my mother passed away. He gave me the strength and hope when I went through a divorce shortly after my mother's death. God held me when I cried, His promise "I will be with you in all things", was proven that time and many times thereafter. God's love for me and for you is unconditional. I know that I am not always easy to love. I challenge Him with repeated questions and lots of negative talk. Truly, my love for Him has come as a result of His having loved me first. God's love is the "super glue" that keeps it all together for me and for you.

**Prayer:** Father God, we thank you for your unconditional love. We ask that you provide your guidance in loving our neighbors with the same unconditional love. Help us to step out of our comfort zones and share your love with those who need to know you. Amen.

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