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Christopher Hylton

Believe in Love!

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.- NKJV

Notice that it's "knowing" the love of God that will give you the motivation to live pure.

If you love someone You will want to



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Does God love us all the same? The Bible says He is no respecter of persons but after He died on the cross, He only showed Himself to those chosen. Not all people could see Him. Did He show partiality? Perhaps we can learn a lesson that God chooses whom He wants. Think about the famous picture of the Good Shepherd. He holds a little sheep close to His heart. Some stand nearby and look at Him, while others are far away yet still following Him. Do you think He loves the little sheep He is holding close more than the other flock or could it be that the sheep is wounded and can't walk? Jesus is holding the wounded sheep

be pure for them. You won't want to steal from them or hurt them in any way. The same is true with our love toward God and His love toward us. Gods love is unconditional. Gods love is everlasting. Gods love is never failing. The Lord spoke something to me a number of years ago. He said, "Your relationship is not based upon your performance but your performance is based upon your relationship. In other words he was saying it doesn't matter how well you work or speak or play your instrument. That's not going to make me love you any more or less. What does matter is how you respond to me or communicate with me. The more you commune with God the better you will speak about God. The more you talk with Him the more you will get to know Him and realize His love for you. I love the statement that Gods love is like an ocean. When you're standing in the ocean and let yourself go, before you know it you will be in the deep part of the sea. The same applies to the love of God. If you let yourself get caught up in His love, the next thing you know you will be in a deeper walk with Him, a deeper knowledge of Him. You will start to think like Him.

Believe in Love!! 1 John 4:16 "And we have known and BELIEVED the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." Believe in His love!! He thought you were worth dying for!! God so loved the world that

because it is more needful at this time. More than likely at some point, He will place it down and allow it to walk on it's own. The closeness of the Father will be something never forgotten. It was a place that was comforting and warm and safe. Will the sheep wander away? Will it fall down again? Probably, but the assurance of the Father's love is always there.

Let's imagine this scenario. A child loves it's father more than anything in the world; always wanting to be in "Daddy's presence". Looking up at the father with adoration and love beyond words, the child wriggles into the lap and lays it's head on the father's chest. So happy is the child to be in his presence that it doesn't hear what the father is saying. Maybe the father is giving the child instructions or warnings for the upcoming day, but the child is enamoured with daddy and just happy to be so close to him and feel his presence that the words just slip by. Another child, sitting in the same room, hears the father's words, but doesn't love on the father like the sibling. The next day, the child that was cuddled didn't heed to the father's word and it causes the child to be sick or to be injured. The other child avoids the disruption but never knows the embrace or the warmth of the father. Should the father feel responsibility? Does the father love one more than the other?

He gave His only Son for YOU!! Not the world!! Just you!! If you were the only person on earth the outcome would have still been the same. Oh how he loves you!!

There is a song that Michael Bolton sings that says " Love is a wonderful thing. It makes you smile in the pouring rain. Love is a wonderful thing!!" Don't forget it!!

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In our Christian life we have all seen people with different ideas about God's love. Some think that God wants to punish them for every wrong thought, others think they are the only child and can do anything they want because their Father loves them. Which one is right? Wanting to be in His presence is a wonderful thing and I, for one, love basking in the Glory of God, but there's more to it. His word is of utmost importance and if we miss His word because we are so "in love" with Christ, then where is the balance? Yes, we love our Father, yes, we want to feel His comfort, yes, we need to bask in His love, but we also need the discipline and the words of instruction. We must not just love with our heart, but we must listen with our heart as well. He is the Good Shepherd and He will guide us, He will love us, He will be our Father.

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