



**Pastor Dave Patterson**  
**Part 2: "Called to be Loved"**  
**Sermon Small Group Notes**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

**WEEK 1 MEMORY VERSE**  
**[1 Thessalonians 5.24, NIV]**

***The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it.***

**[Ephesians 1.4-5, NLT]**

*Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure.*

The first purpose of my life is to **BE LOVED BY GOD**.

**[Romans 1.7, NLT]**

*Dear friends in Rome, **God loves you dearly**, and He has CALLED you to be His very own people.*

***God is not a talent scout.***

**[Jude 1.1, NLT]**

*This letter is from Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James. I am writing to **all who are CALLED TO LIVE IN THE LOVE OF GOD** and in the care of Jesus Christ.*

The relationship God created you for is to be **HIS SON OR DAUGHTER**.

**[1 John 3.1, AMP]**

*What an incredible quality of love the Father has shown to us, that we should be named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are!*

**[Ephesians 3.18-19]**

*May you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, **how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is**. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.*

### **[Isaiah 49.15-16]**

*Is it possible for a mother, to forget her nursing child? Can she feel nothing for the baby she carried and birthed? Even if she could, **I, God, will never forget you.** Look here. I have made you a part of Me; I have written your names on the palms of My hands.*

### **[Jeremiah 31.3, NLT]**

*Long ago the LORD said to Israel: 'I have loved you, my people, **with an everlasting love.** With **unfailing love** I have drawn you to myself.*

### **[Romans 8.35-39, NLT]**

*Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow--not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below--indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

## **4 Transformations that Occur as We Live Aware of God's Love**

- 1. I FEEL ACCEPTED RATHER THAN ASHAMED.**

## **[Romans 5.1, CEV]**

*By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God.*

## **[Romans 8.33-34, CEV]**

*If God says his chosen ones are acceptable to him, can anyone bring charges against them? Or can anyone condemn them? No indeed!*

## **2. I'M BOLD IN BRINGING MY NEEDS TO GOD.**

### **[Romans 8.14-15, 17, NLT]**

*All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God! So, you should not be like cowering, fearful slaves. You should behave instead like God's very own children, adopted into his family-- calling him 'Father, dear Father.'...And since we are His children, we will share His treasures--for everything God gives to His Son, Christ, is ours, too.*

### **[Hebrews 4.16, NIV]**

*Let us then **approach the throne of grace with confidence**, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

## **3. I HAVE PEACE WHEN LIFE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.**

### **[Romans 8.28, NIV]**

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*

#### 4. I GAIN THE COURAGE TO TAKE RISKS.

[1 John 4.18, NIV]

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment.*

***God's relentless love is most clearly expressed through the cross.***

[Romans 5.6-8, NLT]

*When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. **But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.***

#### WEEK 2 MEMORY VERSE [John 15.13]

***Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.***

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What kind of relationship does God want you to have with Him? (worker? citizen? slave? servant? soldier?)
2. How would your life change IF you FELT completely and unconditionally loved by God every moment?
3. What changes if I stay continually aware of God's constant love for me?