

# LOST ASPECTS OF LOVE

06 - Restoring the Soul



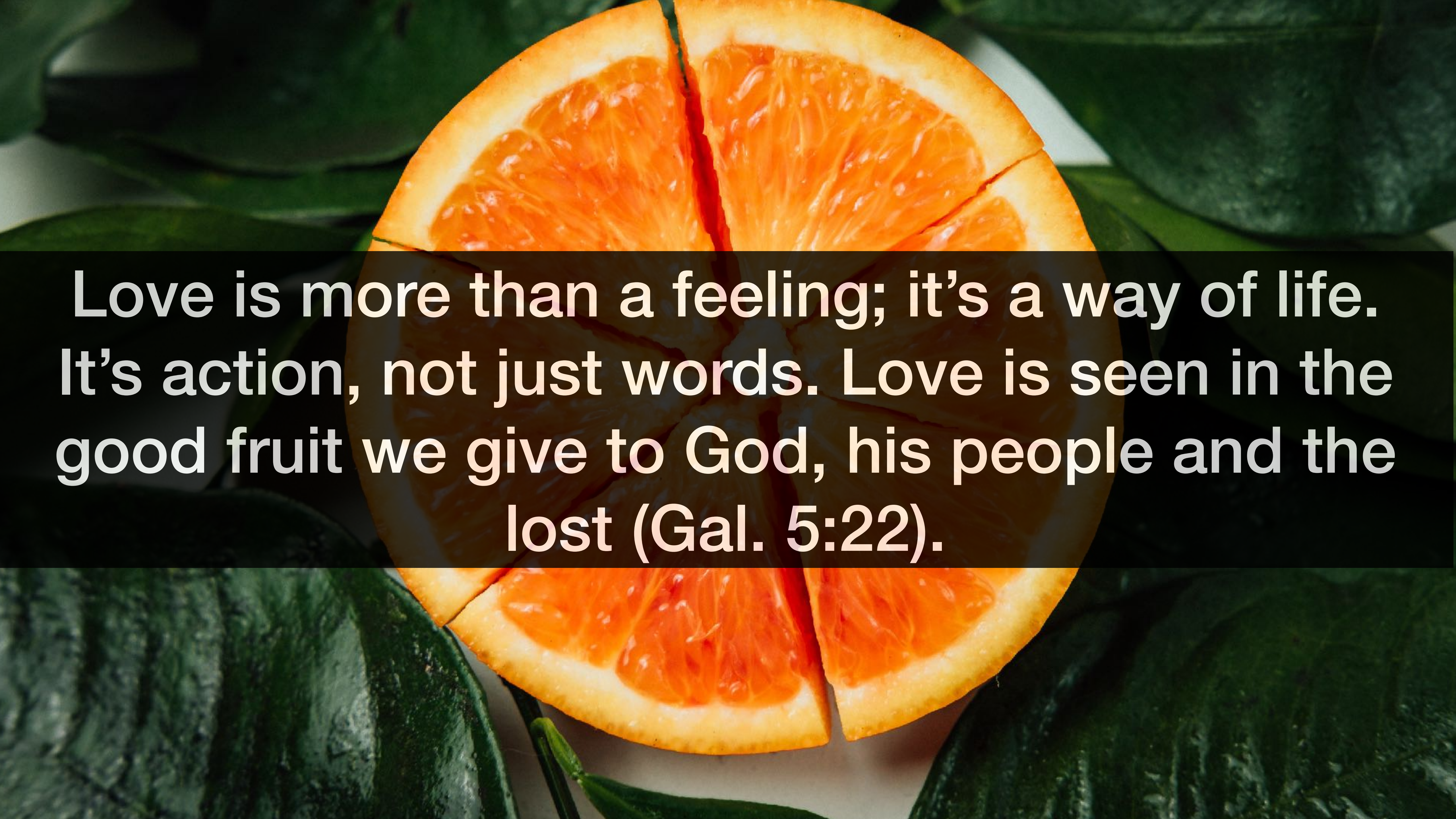
Glen Gerhauser | Church on the Park | Sunday, 12 MARCH 2023

**Today, we will meditate on love and the aspects of love that are often overlooked (1 Cor. 13:4).**



**Love is something that almost everybody thinks they have. Most would say, “I’m a loving person.” You may think you have it and others don’t. However, our love is often like rotten fruit or an orange missing some vital slices. Today, we want to recover the aspects of love that have been forgotten or left to rot.**





**Love is more than a feeling; it's a way of life. It's action, not just words. Love is seen in the good fruit we give to God, his people and the lost (Gal. 5:22).**

At the beginning of 2023 the Lord spoke to me saying, “This is a year of recovery and restoration for my people all around the world – a Psalm 23 year.”



A large flock of sheep is moving through a narrow mountain pass in the Himalayas, India. The sheep are packed closely together, filling the path. The surrounding landscape is rugged and mountainous, with steep, rocky slopes and a clear sky. The lighting suggests a bright day, possibly during the golden hour.

I heard the Lord saying, my people will be

Soaked in my love,

Obedient to my Word,

Understanding my ways, and

Loving me, my people and the lost.”

Himalayas, India


# Love

*Inspiration Paraphrase by Glen Gerhauser*

## 1 Corinthians 13:4

Love has a long fuse –  
It doesn't explode  
When sparked by  
Trouble within or without –  
Tumultuous people  
Don't ignite it to jump ship;  
Caring, kind and helpful –  
That's love.

Love isn't a balloon,  
Swelling with  
Excitement and boasts –  
Bursting from its own pride,  
Sinking into the sea.

A dramatic sunset over the ocean. In the background, a lighthouse sits on a rocky shore. A large sailing ship is visible in the middle ground, with its masts and rigging silhouetted against the bright orange and yellow sky. The foreground shows the dark, choppy water of the sea.

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“Love (ἀγάπη, agape) is patient (μακροθυμέω, makrothumeo - long-suffering, patience, slow to anger), love is kind (χρηστεύομαι, chresteuomai - caring, helpful, kind, good, genuine, TOV) and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant” (1 Co 13:4, NASB).



**Onesiphorus (Ὀνησίφορος, on-ay-SEE-pho-ros) is an excellent example of love for God's people. His name means one who is beneficial or brings profit. That's what love does: it gives others advantages, strength and increase.**

**“You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus (Φύγελος) and Hermogenes (Ἑρμιογένης). The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus” (2 Tim. 1:15–18, NASB).**

written for his sake alone,<sup>24</sup> but for ours also. It will be counted to us<sup>25</sup> who believe in<sup>26</sup> him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord,<sup>25</sup> who was delivered up for our trespasses

#### Peace with God Through Faith

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>2</sup>Through him we also<sup>3</sup> obtained access by faith<sup>4</sup> into this grace<sup>5</sup> in which we stand, and<sup>6</sup> we rejoice<sup>7</sup> in hope<sup>8</sup> in the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>Not that we boast of our own righteousness, but of his who saves us by his grace. <sup>10</sup>For it is through his grace that we are justified, not by our own works, but by his grace through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

<sup>11</sup>For while we were still dead, our lives were made alive in Christ through his grace. <sup>12</sup>Not that we boast of our own righteousness, but of his who saves us by his grace. <sup>13</sup>For if we boast of our own righteousness, we have nothing to boast of, for we are justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>14</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>15</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has now given us this reconciliation.

#### Death in Adam, Life in Christ

<sup>16</sup>The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>17</sup>For if by the trespass of one man, death reigned through one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass brought condemnation for all men, so also the free gift of righteousness will abound to all men, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace will reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>19</sup>For if by the trespass of one man, death reigned through one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through one man, Jesus Christ.

Christ abounded for<sup>16</sup> many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's

sin. For<sup>17</sup> the judgment following the trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following the trespass brought righteousness. And because one trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through one man, Jesus Christ.

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#### Dead to Sin, Alive to God

<sup>1</sup>What then? Are we to sin because we are not under the law? By no means! How can we have died to sin still live in it? <sup>2</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>3</sup>We were buried with him through baptism into death, in order that, just as he was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

<sup>4</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>5</sup>We know that our old self<sup>6</sup> was crucified with him in

<sup>24</sup> Rom. 10:4; 1 Pet. 1:21. <sup>25</sup> See Acts 13:38; Gal. 3:13; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>26</sup> See Gal. 2:20; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>27</sup> See Gal. 2:20; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>28</sup> See Gal. 2:20; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>29</sup> See Gal. 2:20; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>30</sup> See Gal. 2:20; 1 Cor. 15:17; Heb. 10:10.

order that<sup>16</sup> the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>17</sup>For<sup>17</sup> one who has been set free<sup>18</sup> from sin, shall not be enslaved to anything.

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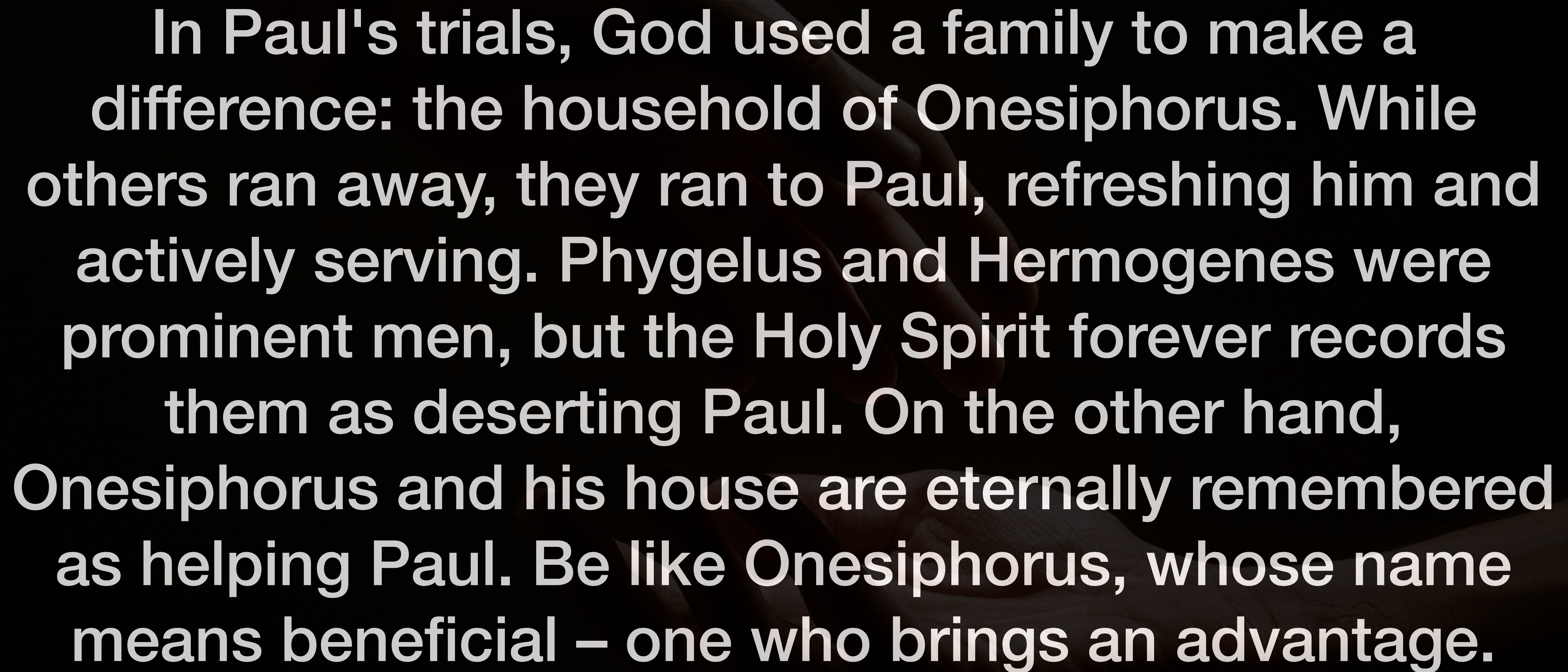
<sup>19</sup>For if by the trespass of one man, death reigned through one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through one man, Jesus Christ.

#### Slaves to Righteousness

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God spoke through Paul and even used him to write much of the New Testament. He led many to faith and moved in miracles. Yet, many turned away from him in the province of Asia, deserting him in his greatest need. Rejection by people doesn't mean God has removed his blessing. Neither does popularity imply divine approval. Don't think, "Oh, I must be on God's good side because I'm so popular, and everything is going my way."

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a book, with the text overlaid on the image. The background is dark, and the text is white and bold.

In Paul's trials, God used a family to make a difference: the household of Onesiphorus. While others ran away, they ran to Paul, refreshing him and actively serving. Phygelus and Hermogenes were prominent men, but the Holy Spirit forever records them as deserting Paul. On the other hand, Onesiphorus and his house are eternally remembered as helping Paul. Be like Onesiphorus, whose name means beneficial – one who brings an advantage.

A hand holding a magnifying glass over a compass, symbolizing search and discovery.

**What are some of the lost aspects of love?**

**Loyalty**

**Suffering long with other**

**Sacrificing for the sake of the Gospel**

**Being present, rather than absent**

**Engagement**

**Going the extra mile**

**Staying and sticking to it, rather than jumping from one church to another and one relationship to another**



# Dwell Deeply

*Inspiration Translation by Glen Gerhauser*

## John 15:9-17

Just as the Father loves me, I love you. Dwell deeply in my love. If you guard my commands - you will dwell deeply in my love - just as I guard my Father's commands and dwell deeply in his love. I have said this so that my joy resides within you. I want you to have abundant and overflowing joy.

My command is that you love one another as I have loved you. There's no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for their friends. You are my friends if you do what I have commanded you.

I no longer say you are slaves because slaves do not know what their Lord is doing. Instead, I call you friends. I hear everything from my Father, and I don't keep it to myself - I reveal it to you - that's intimacy.

You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you. I have selected you to go undercover - secretly - and bear fruit. Don't make a show of it. I want you to bear fruit that remains and doesn't rot - not just any kind of fruit - but lasting fruit. Therefore, if you ask the Father anything in my name, he will give it to you. Simply put, I command you to love one another. Now that's good and timeless fruit.

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**The Chief Shepherd restores us to love one another just as he loves us. This love is gritty and sticks to it when others run away.**

