

Bucketloads

30 - Living the Simple Gospel: Philippians
Church on the Park | Father's Day - Sunday, 3 Sept 2017

Text: Philippians 3:1-8; Romans 5:1-5

Theme: The Father has made it possible for you to fully experience his love.

Intro: In our Philippians passage, Paul shares about his noble heritage. In the Jewish world, he was born of the best stock—the highest pedigree. We can infer that he had righteous parents because they circumcised him on the eighth day according to the law. He grew up learning God's commands and outwardly never violated them. His parents also made sure he had the best education, studying under one of the greatest Jewish leaders of all time, Gamaliel. He had much to take pride in, but he says "he puts no confidence in the flesh." He had to leave his father and mother, even his culture and traditions, to be united to Christ. He died to the flesh, being crucified with Christ, in order to know Jesus and the Father's love found in him.

1) You can fully experience the Father's love because of Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1-5).

- Paul teaches us that it's **through** Jesus Christ—who he is and what he has done—that you are put into a **right relationship** with God.
- It's like receiving a **debit card** with **unlimited funds**, but the only way to access the funds is to **activate** the card.
 - It's **faith** that **activates** what Jesus has done for you.
- The **room** is **already prepared**—the room of God's presence, glory and riches—but **Jesus** is the **key** and **faith opens** the door.
 - "**through** whom also we have obtained our **introduction** [access] into this grace we now stand."
 - προσάγωγή (prosagoge) - "to bring near...meaning access, approach...The term was commonly used for the audience or **right of approach** granted to someone by **high officials and monarchs**" (CWSNT).
- Many people are **fans** of God, but they are at a **distance**. It's **faith** in Jesus that's gives you the **back stage pass** so that you can know him.
 - This is **not based** on **your works** or **goodness**, but **his work** and goodness.
- **Faith** gives you **access** to all the **Father's love**.
 - Now, you are **standing** in the **right spot** for **bucketloads** of the **Father's love** to be **poured** on you.
 - Here I'm thinking about a **water park** where a **large bucket** of water fills up and tips over children. Then all the kids get **soaked** and **laugh**.
- The verse I want to highlight is this: "the love of God has been **poured out** [*ekcheo*] within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was give to us."
 - Here the **Father's love** is being described **like liquid** being poured into our **hearts**.
 - The **Holy Spirit** is the **Father's love** poured into you heart.
 - The Greek word ἐκχέω (ekcheo) can be translated as "**to cause** someone to **experience** something in an **abundance or full manner**—'to cause to fully experience'" (Louw-Nida).
- I can **relate** to **Paul** in the two passages we began with, Philippians 3:1-8 and Romans 5:1-5.

- I had very **good parents**. My **dad** was a paratrooper and commander in the special forces. My **mother** had an amazingly kind and gentle heart. They were both very forgiving. Their house was the **community centre** of the neighbourhood. They gave me the best of **education**, having the **highest hopes** in me.
- Soon I experienced **a whole different kind of love**—a love that is **higher** and **greater** than any in the flesh. It's a love that you can experience whether you had a good, bad or absent Father—it's not based on the **flesh**, the **natural things**.
- After I gave my life to Jesus, I began to experience the '**liquid love**' of the Father being poured into my heart.
- This continual experience left me in a **pool of tears** and **changed my very nature**. Instead of wanting to build **businesses, skyscrapers and casinos**, I wanted to be a **father** and to build people's lives. I **no longer** cared about **making money**, instead I **cared about people**. All my teachers thought I was most likely to be a millionaire and since I was young I had several businesses—magic shows, baseball cards, newspapers, candy, DJing, etc. I also won first place in Entrepreneurship in a regional convention for future business leaders of America.
 - And once I experienced the **Father's love**, I **left everything behind** so that I could do his work and not mine.
- It's this love that each of **you can fully experience**, no matter what your background or education, whether you are rich or poor, skilled or unskilled.
- And this experience of God's love (not just a mental knowledge of it) is **available** to everyone of you because of **Jesus Christ**.

2) Experiencing the Father's love will change your nature and make you a giver like him (John 3:16, 35).

- The experience of God's love **changed my nature** and the way I **related** to people.
 - The Father's love gave me **new desires**.
- The Father's love gave me the **heart** of the **Father** for people. I then wanted to be a father.
- There is a **lack of fathers** today. So I want to **describe** to you what a father is like.
 - And there is no better **standard** than the **heavenly Father**.
- **Real fathers** are **givers**. We see this in **John 3:16**.
- Now, when the **Father gave** his **Son**, he was **NOT copping out**.
 - In other words, it's not like the Father is saying, "You die and I'll stay here in heaven myself."
 - If you think like that you don't understand God and the Trinity. The Father and Son are **one**. When the Father gives his Son he is giving himself—**his heart**. So the Father **suffers** with the Son and the whole Godhead **experiences this death**, each in a very **unique**, but **total way**.
- My whole purpose here is to share that **the heavenly Father is a giver**—that's **his nature**. And that all **fathers** who are after his heart are **givers too** (*John 3:35).
- It's a **giving** that is **based on love**.
- Fathers are givers. Fatherhood **begins by giving** your seed to another. But that's not where it ends. Fathers **give their time, effort, love and care**. They don't **bounce from one family to another**, but **stay** and **raise** children.
 - **Fathers sacrifice** themselves for their **sons and daughters**. Their life is about their **children**, not about themselves. Fathers are like **rocks**, they don't move. They are **faithful**.
- Fathers give **continual love and affirmation**.

- I think it's quite easy and natural for a father to correct his children. **What's harder** is to give a **constant stream of encouragement, kindness, affirmation and support**.
- The Father is **not critical, judgmental and opinionated**—so be like your Father, **full of grace and truth**.
- Sometimes fathers are very kind to other children, but not their own. This is also something to watch out for. Let the Spirit of God flow through you to your children.
- Don't believe what the world says. The **world** says, "**don't praise** your children because they will get a big head." That's rubbish.
- **Paul is always praising and thanking God** for his spiritual **children**. He is always **affirming** them. He never wants to cause them pain or sorrow. The world itself will try to rip your children to pieces, so there's no worry about them getting a big head. Your job is to **encourage** and **affirm** your children.

3) Let the Father pour his love on you. And let his love flow through you to others (1 John 4:19).

- There's a **drought of love** today. I'm not talking about natural love; I'm talking about spiritual love (love that comes from the Holy Spirit).
- The **reason why we don't love** is **because** we have not **experienced God's love**.
- First, before you can become a **good giver**, you must become a **good receiver**.
 - If you are a minister—you are used to giving—but you need to receive more than you give.
- **Receiving love** is the **key to living a life of God's love**. And I'm not talking about receiving love from others (that's important if people are trying to love you), but love from your heavenly Father.
- **Constantly stand** in **Jesus Christ's grace** so that you can receive **bucketloads of love**.

Conclusion: The Father gave his Son, his very heart, to make it possible for you to receive bucketloads of his love. Let the Father pour his love on you today. His love will make you a giver, like him, and will flow through you to others.

END NOTES

'Poured Out' - Word Study

1772 ἐκχέομαι (*ekcheomai*), ἐκχέω (*ekcheō*): vb. [see also 1773]; ≡ DBLHebr 9161; Str 1632; TDNT 2.467—1. LN 47.4 **cause to flow out**, pour out (Mt 9:17; Lk 5:37; Mk 2:22 v.r.); 2. LN 90.89 **cause to fully experience**, the figurative extension of “to pour out” (Ro 5:5; Tit 3:6); 3. LN 20.84 αἷμα ἐκχέω (*haima ekcheō*), murder (Ro 3:15); 4. LN 14.18 (dep.) **flow out** (Mt 9:17; Ac 1:18); 5. LN 68.75 (dep.) **plunge into**, give oneself over completely (Jude 11), for another interp, see next; 6. LN 90.82 (dep.) **fully experience** (Jude 11), for another interp, see prior; 7. LN 41.13 (dep.) **devote to**, give oneself to some type of behavior (Jude 11), for another interp, see prior

Swanson, J. (1997). [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek \(New Testament\)*](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

1632. ἐκχέω *ekchéō*; fut. *ekcheō*, fut. pass. *ekchuthēsomai*, aor. *exéchea* (John 2:15), aor. pass. *exechúthēn*, perf. pass. *ekkéchumai*, from *ek* (1537), out, and *chéō* (n.f., see *epichéō* [2022]), to pour. To pour out.

(I) Particularly in Matt. 9:17; Mark 2:22, “the wine is poured out” (a.t.) means spilled; Luke 5:37; John 2:15, “he poured out the money” (a.t.) means he scattered it upon the ground; Acts 1:18, “his bowels gushed out.” See Sept.: Ex. 4:9; Lev. 4:12; 14:41; Judg. 6:20; 2 Sam. 20:10. In the phrase *haíma* ([129], blood) *ekchéō* (to pour out) means to shed blood and bring about death through the shedding of blood (Acts 22:20; Rom. 3:15; Rev. 16:6). In Matt. 23:35; Luke 11:50 the pres. part. *ekchunómenon* is used, indicating not a continuous pouring out, but that the pouring was before the foundation of the world, planned and destined to be so. Spoken of the blood of Christ (a pregnant theological metaphor for His death) shed or poured out as a sacrifice for sin (Matt. 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20 [cf. Gen. 9:6; Deut. 19:10; 1 Sam. 25:31; 2 Kgs. 21:16; Ps. 79:10]). By metonymy, the container for the contents (Rev. 16:1–4, 8, 10, 12, 17).

(II) Metaphorically to pour out, shed abroad, give generously; followed by *en* (1722), in, as in Rom. 5:5; by *epí* (1909), upon, with the acc. of person, such as the Spirit (Acts 2:17, 18; 10:45; Titus 3:6; Sept.: Joel 2:28, 29; Zech. 12:10).

(III) Metaphorically in the pass. or mid., to be poured out, spoken of persons, i.e., intrans., to pour forth, rush tumultuously (cf. Sept.: Judg. 9:44; 20:37). In the NT, spoken metaphorically of a passion or direction of the mind, to rush into, give oneself up to (Jude 1:11).

Deriv.: *aimatekchusía* (130), shedding of blood; *huperekchúnō* (5240), to run or spill over.

Syn.: *kataklúzō* (2626), to deluge; *réō* (4483), to pour forth; *spéndō* (4689), to pour out as a libation.

Zodhiates, S. (2000). [*The complete word study dictionary: New Testament*](#) (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.

“...the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” (Rom. 5:5).

MISC Personal Notes

You can experience the Father’s love because of Jesus Christ.

Why am I sharing about this? It’s because Paul talks about his flesh and losing these things for the sake of knowing Christ.

Whenever you find that a father is not like this, the soul of a child is deeply wounded. He or she knows that something is not right, but cannot communicate it. Consequently, they act out and rebel. The heavenly Father has placed in them an instinctive knowledge of what a father is meant to be.

Because of sin, all fathers will frustrate you and fall short. This is why you need to look to the heavenly Father. As you look to him, he pours his love in your heart. As he pours his love in your heart, your nature changes so that you become more like him. Now you are able to reflect God to the next generation—but you can never take God’s place.

Father’s affirm and encourage. They are not judgmental. They build up their children rather than tear them down.