

**January 27, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**Gal. 5:22-23** *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.* (NIV)

For the next few days, we are going to see nine pieces of God's provision for our abundant life. These are provided through the Holy Spirit, and you cannot possess these things without His touch in your life. It is no surprise that the first provision is love. Think about it. You can't have the LORD without love. It is Who He is. **1 John 4:8** *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.* (NIV) Love is the motivation for everything else that the LORD has done, and parenthetically, for all that He wants us to do. It is because of His great love that we can have a real relationship with the God of the universe. It is because of His great love that He made a way for us to be His children. **John 3:16** *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.* (NIV) And because of our trusting in Him, we can then experience real and abundant life: **Eph. 2:4-5** *but because of His great love for us, God, Who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.* (NIV) In my first year of devotions "Because God Is Love," I took a daily look at the motivating love of God. I believe scripture shares with us continuously, that God does everything because of His love. That is Who He is. That is why He is. That is what He does. And so, if we are His, we are to be motivated by the very same love that He has. It is the same love that caused Him to give His life in exchange for ours. It is the same love that set the captives free. It is the same love that calls you and me into His presence. We could never experience this real life without the love of God.

**Dear LORD, thank You that You are love, and that You freely give this love to all. You will always love us, and You will never leave us. Praise You LORD! In Jesus Name, Amen**