

July 12, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

1 John 3:1 *See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.* (NIV)

I love how John puts this first part. He calls it *great love* that has been *lavished on us*. The Greek term for great love is **potapen agapen** which means, love that has not been known or experienced before to this extent or measure. It pictures a cup that holds a small amount being held under a torrent like Niagara Falls. We are literally being flooded with His great love. And not only does He pour out His love upon us, but He also treats us as His own children. Now if you are a parent, you get this analogy. You love your children much more than you do your neighbor's children. Let's be honest. Sometimes, it's even difficult to like them. But in comparison, you would do almost anything for your children. John then confirms *that is what we are!*

For others to know the LORD, they must see His resemblance in us. We must show people the Father in and through us; through our unconditional love; through our forgiveness; through our compassion. The LORD not only gave His life for our salvation, but also for our adoption into His family. My Father can do all things. My Father knows all things. My Father will always be there for me because my Father loves me more than anyone else could ever love me. He has proven this to me over and over again. He calls me His own child. He is not ashamed of me, but He loves me with no strings attached. **2 Cor. 6:18** *"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."* (NIV)

Why don't you introduce someone to your Father today? I'm sure they would be glad to meet Him and get to know Him.

Dear LORD, thank You for lavishing Your great love upon us. Thank You for adopting us into Your family. Thank You for giving us Your Name. Thank You for being our Father. In Jesus Name, Amen