

Loving The Invisible God!

By Richard Crisco

Hag 2:6 "For thus says the LORD of hosts: "Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. 8 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts. 9 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

“Christianity was never meant to be a life of disciplines. It was always meant to be a life of passion.” – Bill Johnson

It is impossible to serve God out of our own strength and will power, but it is easy to serve God when we are experiencing and abiding in His Love!

1Jn 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; BUT if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is

made complete in us. ... 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

In all honesty, sometimes it can be difficult to maintain faith and love towards an invisible God! That is the reason why man has always been prone to create idols and images that they can see to worship.

So How can we keep our faith strong and our Love fervent for Our Invisible God?

1. Hearing the Word.

Rom 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. Keeping Mementos. (Pictures/Journals)

3. Fresh Experiences to Feed our Passion.

Rev 2:4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. 5 Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

What did I do at first?

1. I Repented and
2. I had a Revelation of God's Love for Me!

Rev 3:15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ... 19 "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Just as Salt that has lost its saltiness is worthless,
so is the Christian who loses their passion
And they will find themselves trampled by men!
Mt. 5:13

People are drawn to the Christian that is passionately
in love with Jesus and demonstrate His Love,
But they are repulsed by a Christian who has lost
their passion for Christ!

We are all drawn to people who are full of passion!
Ex. "Steve Irwin – The Crocodile Hunter"

Many who do not live with passion, live vicariously through movies, sports, or the experiences of others.

Doing the right things was never God's Goal for our lives. A Relationship with God is not based primarily on "doing the right things" out of discipline.

God's Ultimate Desire for each of us is a Thriving, Passionate, On Fire Heart of Love – that will quickly and easily abandon Everything in order to follow closely after Him in Utmost Obedience!

Act 13:22 After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'

"Lovers always get more work done than workers!"
Mike Bickle

We cannot know God's Love through information!

Eph 3:17 ... And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ill. Trees Roots intertwine to provide added strength and protection!

**We cannot know God's Love through information!
Only Experience will provide the Revelation
necessary to true Know His PERFECT Love that goes
way beyond natural understanding!**

**Example: I can read about sky diving and learn tons
of information about the many feelings associated
with jumping out of an airplane Thousands of feet
above the ground. But I will not fully know what it is
like until I jump out of a plane myself.**

**We cannot live a vibrant Life in Christ from
information, we must have personal Revelation of His
Love for us!**

**Problem:
Even though God's Love is always available, we live
in a day when there are more distractions than ever
before in human history! 100's of TV programs,
emails, text messages, mp3's, YouTube, Smart
phones, mobile video games, etc.**

**These are not wicked in themselves, but they can so
easily and quickly rob us of time and fill our day with
meaningless activity!**

**Today's Technology is often the greatest hindrance
to our "WAITING on the LORD!"**

***Mt 6:6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the
door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then
your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will
reward you. 7 And when you pray, do not keep on***

***babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard
because of their many words. 8 Do not be like them,
for your Father knows what you need before you ask
him.***

**Jesus desires a Crockpot Relationship
in a Microwave Oven world!**

**We have been accustomed to quick service and
immediate pleasures; thus we become frustrated and
impatient when waiting upon the Lord!**

**However, when purposely chose to commit to Love
Jesus in the midst of a multitude of lovers it enriches
and solidifies your relationship with Him!**

**Ill: I did not marry Jane because she was the only
one that would possibly say yes to my proposal!
"Jane, No one out there wants to marry me. You are
the only one available – the only option I have. SO,
will you marry me?"**

**NO! There were thousands of women to choose
from... But no one out there even comes close to
comparing to you!!! You are the one that I want to
share my life with!!! You are the one that I want to
experience Life's Journeys with!!!**

**Our Intimacy with Christ is not cultivated by
focusing on saying "No" to all of the temptations that
would vie for our affection. Rather – it is Cultivated
by gazing upon His Love that supersedes anything
that this world has to offer!**

**Ill: Children drop EVERYTHING to greet Daddy
when he comes home at the end of the day!**

**We need to be like Children ... willing to drop
everything at once ... when we hear Daddy Near!**

***Rev. 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If
anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come
in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.***

***Jn 15:9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved
you; abide in My love.***

**We cannot recreate the love we used to have when we
first got saved. And He is not calling for us to abide
in our love for Him, but to learn to abide in His love
for us.**

**If we will abide in His Extravagant Love for us
than we will BURN with PASSION for Him!**

**Our willingness to wait on the Lord is determined by
our desperation for His Presence!**