ENJOYING GOD

A Sermon Series

Hill Cliffe Study Guide
Sunday 7 May 2023
Week 4 – Knowing and Relying on God's Love

1. What struck you most from Sunday's Sermon?

2. Most of the time, how do you think God feels about you?

3. How do you know God loves you?

Knowing we are loved makes a huge difference to our enjoyment of any relationship – and the same is true of our relationship with God.
Gary Chapman's book, 'The 5 Love Languages', highlights the following ways we tend to express love (or recognize love expressed to us): Words of affirmation, affection, and love; Acts of service; Giving & Receiving gifts; Quality time; Physical touch or intimacy.

1 John 4 (NLT)13 And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. 14 Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15 All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. 16 So we know how much God loves us, and we rely on and put our trust in his love. God is love.

4. From what the Apostle John says above, how can '**we know how much God loves us**'?

Please read **1 John 3.1; John 3.16-17; 1 Peter 2.24-25; Romans 5.5; Romans 8.15-17; Romans 8.31-39; 1 John 4.18**

5. From what you know about God from these Scriptures (and others), and from you're your personal experience of God – how does God express his love to us in each of the 5 love languages mentioned above?

*1 John 4.16 So we **know** how much God loves us, and we **rely on and put our trust in his love**. God is love.*

6. Please read **Ephesians 3.17-19**. Our enjoyment of our relationship with God is enhanced by our knowledge of God's love for us. Please discuss this motivation for wanting to know God better.

7. '**… and we rely on and put our trust in his love.**' How do you *rely* on the love of those who love you (friends, family, marriage partner, etc)? How do you *rely* on God's love for you?

8. How might **Proverbs 3.5-6** be easier the more we know God better and rely on his love more?