

## God is Love

**Question:** *What attribute of God do you most appreciate?*

**The wrong way to understand God's love:**

- ❖ It's common to have a disproportionate view of God's attributes.
- ❖ It's common today to redefine God's love as . . .

**The right way to understand God's love:**

- ❖ Love is not defined but is described in practical terms in I Cor. 13:3-8), though it is more of a description of how we should love.
- ❖ Love, as with life, is derived from God, Jn. 14:31, 15:9, I Jn. 4:7ff.
- ❖ God describes Himself as loving, Ex. 34:6,7, II Cor. 13:11.  
Concepts like kindness, compassion, graciousness, forgiveness are often associated with love.
- ❖ God's love is described best by actions, Rom. 5:8, Eph. 1:4.5, 2:4-7, Jn. 3:16.
- ❖ God's love is pictured as father-like (Ps. 103:13, Heb. 4:6-11), mother-like (Isa. 49:15) and even husband-like (Eph. 5:22ff., Js. 4:4, Rev. 21:9)—but not grandfatherly, meek or mild!
- ❖ God's love has the goal to make us more "lovable"—not simply to make us feel comfortable with ourselves, Rom. 8:28-30.
- ❖ Because God's loves us . . . Eph. 5:1ff, I Jn. 4:11, Jn. 13:34,35.

