

How great is the 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:1-3 (NIV)

I Am Your Child

I am your child. You are my Father. That is difficult to comprehend. **Why is that?** It is so amazing that the God who created the universe, loves and cares for me. In the vastness of all creation, I am small and insignificant, or so, it seems to me. I could imagine that you are quite busy and would have no time for me. But, that is not true at all. **No, it's not.** You love and care for me. **Yes, I do.** You are watching over my life. Your hand is on me. Your favor rests of me. You are guiding me to where you want me to go. You are giving me what you want me to do. **Yes, I am.** You went to great lengths to demonstrate your love for me. You paid a very high price so that I could be forgiven of my sins and cleansed of my unrighteousness. **Yes, I did.** It was that important to you, that I come to live in an intimate relationship with you. **Yes, it is.** That is amazing. That is astounding. That is head spinning. That is breathtaking. That is heart pounding. **I'm glad you think so.**

There is something just as amazing. **What's that?** You want me to come to know you. **Yes, I do.** You want me to come into your presence. You want to mold and shape my life as I come to know you. Every day as I draw near to you, I will be changed to be more like you. You will help me to know your thoughts. You will help me to walk in your ways. You will help me to live the life you have called me to live. **Yes, I will.** Now, in this life I will see and know you only in part. Now, in this life I will become like you only in part. **That is true.** One day, I will see and know you fully. Then, on that day, I will be changed. I will become like you. **Yes, you will.** That is my hope. That is my desire. That is what causes my heart to burn with passion for you. I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. **That is very good.**

Father, thank you for lavishing your love on me by making me to be your child. You are my Father! Help me to comprehend and accept all it means to be your child. May all the hope I have in you guide how I live for you now. Amen

Love *Lavished On Us*

How great is the 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

NIV 1 John 3:1-3

Love *How Very Much*

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.

NLT 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Has Given Us*

See what love the Father has given 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. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

NRSV 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Has Given Us*

SEE WHAT [an incredible] quality of love the Father has given (shown, bestowed on) us, that we should [be permitted to] be named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are! The reason that the world does not know (recognize, acknowledge) us is that it does not know (recognize, acknowledge) Him. Beloved, we are [even here and] now God's children; it is not yet disclosed (made clear) what we shall be [hereafter], but we know that when He comes and is manifested, we shall [as God's children] resemble and be like Him, for we shall see Him just as He [really] is. And everyone who has this hope [resting] on Him cleanses (purifies) himself just as He is pure (chaste, undefiled, guiltless).

AMP 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Bestowed On Us*

See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

NASB 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Has Given To Us*

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

ESV 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Bestowed On Us*

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

NKJV 1 John 3:1-3

Love *Has Extended To Us*

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are. But that's also why the world doesn't recognize us or take us seriously, because it has no idea who he is or what he's up to. But friends, that's exactly who we are: children of God. And that's only the beginning. Who knows how we'll end up! What we know is that when Christ is openly revealed, we'll see him—and in seeing him, become like him. All of us who look forward to his Coming stay ready, with the glistening purity of Jesus' life as a model for our own.

MSG 1 John 3:1-3

Love *How Very Much*

See how very much our heavenly Father loves us, for he allows us to be called his children—think of it—and we really are! But since most people don't know God, naturally they don't understand that we are his children. Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children, right now, and we can't even imagine what it is going to be like later on. But we do know this, that when he comes we will be like him, as a result of seeing him as he really is. And everyone who really believes this will try to stay pure because Christ is pure.

TLB 1 John 3:1-3

Love *So Much*

The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are his children. The reason the people in the world do not know us is that they have not known him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and we have not yet been shown what we will be in the future. But we know that when Christ comes again, we will be like him, because we will see him as he really is. Christ is pure, and all who have this hope in Christ keep themselves pure like Christ.

NCV 1 John 3:1-3

Lavished On Us

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Love – 1 John 3:1-3

In Context: *Read 1 John 3*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

How great is the 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. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:1-3 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

How great | is | the 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. | Dear friends, | now | we are | children of God, | and what | we will be | has not yet | been made known. | But we know | that when | he appears, | we shall be | like him, | for | we shall | see him | as he | is. | Everyone who | has this hope | in him | purifies himself, | just as | he is | pure. 1 John 3:1-3 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Father, thank you for lavishing your love on me by making me to be your child. You are my Father! Help me to comprehend and accept all it means to be your child. May all the hope I have in you guide how I live for you now. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you been most aware of God lavishing His love on you?

How difficult has it been for you to really comprehend and accept that you are a child of God?

What would you like to say to God about Him making you to be one of His children?

How are you, as God's child, growing in your relationship with God your Father?

How does your identity as a child of God shape how you think and feel about yourself?

How excited and hope filled are you with knowing that one day you will see God and become like Him?

How is your hope in seeing and becoming like God in the future guiding how you live your life now?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Spend time in prayer talking with God because He has lavished you with His love by making you to be His child.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God has lavished you with His love by making you to be one of His children.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are growing in your relationship with God your Father.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you receive all the love that your Heavenly Father has lavished on you as you walk with Him as His child.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, help me to know and receive your lavish love as I walk with you as your child.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, as your child how can I more fully know and receive your lavish love for me?
