

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)

Lavished With Love

There is no doubt about that. **There is no doubt about what?** There is no doubt that you have lavished me with your love. **How have I lavished you with my love?** You have lavished me with your love in ways too numerous to count. **Name a few ways that I have lavished you with my love.** You made it possible for me to be adopted into your family. You sent your Son into the world to pay for my sins so that I could be forgiven of all my unrighteousness. You broke down the barrier that prevented me from living in an intimate relationship with you. You rescued me from a life without you both now and forever. You have made me to be your child. You are my Heavenly Father. **Yes, I am. Yes, I have done all these things for you.** For that, I am very thankful. **That is very good.**

How else have I lavished you with my love? You put your Holy Spirit in me. Your Holy Spirit in me is like a deposit guaranteeing that I have an inheritance in heaven with you. One day I will come to live forever in heaven with you. One day, I will see you. One day, I will be completely changed. **How so?** I will become like your Son. **Yes, you will.** Knowing this fills me with hope and peace and joy. Knowing this fills me with praise and thanksgiving to you. This hope fills me with passion to live my life with and for you. I want to live a life that is fully pleasing to you. I long for the day when I will come to live in heaven forever with you. In the meantime, you are changing me day by day. You are molding and shaping me. You are helping me to live the life that you have called me to live. Even now, you have started the work of making me to be like your Son. **Yes, I have.** Your work will reach its completion on the day I come to live with you. **Yes, it will.** That will be a glorious day. **Yes, it will.**

Heavenly Father, thank you for lavishing me with your love. You made me to be your child. You are helping me to come to know, love, follow and serve you. You are molding and shaping my life. You are making me to be like your Son. I welcome your work in me. Amen

Discipleship *We Shall Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Will Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Will Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Shall... Be Like Him*

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.

AMP 1 John 3:1-3

Discipleship *We Will Be Like Him*

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 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

Discipleship *We Shall Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Shall Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *Become Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Will Be Like Him*

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

Discipleship *We Will Be Like Him*

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

We Shall Be Like Him

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – 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?)***

Heavenly Father, thank you for lavishing me with your love. You made me to be your child. You are helping me to come to know, love, follow and serve you. You are molding and shaping my life. You are making me to be like your Son. I welcome your work in me. 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 the love your Heavenly Father has lavished on you?

How is your Heavenly Father been helping you to live out your identity as a child of God?

How is your Heavenly Father helping you to come to know and love and follow and serve Him?

How has your coming to know and love your Heavenly Father made you different from others in the world?

How encouraging is it to know that your Heavenly Father is making you to be like His Son?

How is your heart and mind and life focused on Christ so that you will become like Him?

How does your hope of becoming like Christ impact who you are and what you do?

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

Focus your heart and mind and life on Christ so that your Heavenly Father will be able to make you like Him.

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

Have faith that your Heavenly Father will lavish you with His love and make you to be like His Son.

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

Share with another person or your small group how you are becoming more like Christ as you focus yourself on Him.

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 allow your Heavenly Father to make you to be like His Son.

Prayer To Carry

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

Heavenly Father, do your work in me to make me to be like your Son.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, how will you make me to be more like your Son today?
