

**Perfect Love  
No Fear of Our Past  
Pastor Steve**

*Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NLT*

**Key Verse of the Series**

*Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. 1 John 4:18 NIV*

*God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. (9-10)*

*Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. (11-14)*

*All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. (15-17)*

*Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. 1 John 4:9-18 NIV*

**Grab This!**

Not God loves perfectly... God \_\_\_\_\_ perfect love.

*God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. (9)*

*All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. (15-16)*

**Grab This!**

If God is Loving Perfection — then you can never do anything to make him love you \_\_\_\_\_, and you can never do anything to make him love you \_\_\_\_\_ — because you cannot improve upon perfection.

Since God is perfect love, his love for you is not based upon your \_\_\_\_\_!

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39 NIV*

**Don't Miss This!**

God's perfect love does not mean that He \_\_\_\_\_ sin, instead; it means He provided a way for sin to be forgiven and for people to be made righteous in Christ.

**Key Thought for the Series**

God's Perfect Love, experienced in Christ, should \_\_\_\_\_ our fear of Him.

## **Key Thought of the Day**

### **How might God respond to me?**

For the Christian, since God is Perfect Love, we should have no fear over our \_\_\_\_\_.

### **No Fear of Our Past Means...**

- We can experience no fear of \_\_\_\_\_.

1 John 4:9-10

*Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) Ephesians 2:1-5 NLT*

*"I—yes, I alone—will blot out your sins for my own sake and will never think of them again." Isaiah 43:25 NLT*

*How great is God's love for all who worship him? Greater than the distance between heaven and earth! How far has the Lord taken our sins from us? Farther than the distance from east to west! Psalm 103:11-12 CEV*

Once \_\_\_\_\_ through Jesus = now \_\_\_\_\_ by the Father.

### **No Fear of Our Past Means...**

- We can experience No Fear of \_\_\_\_\_.

*And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. 1 John 4:17 NLT*

*Think how much the Father loves us. He loves us so much that he lets us be called his children, as we truly are. But since the people of this world did not know who Christ is, they don't know who we are. My dear friends, we are already God's children, though what we will be hasn't yet been seen. But we do know that when Christ returns, we will be like him, because we will see him as he truly is. This hope makes us keep ourselves holy, just as Christ is holy. 1 John 3:1-3 CEV*

*And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:11-15 NLT*

*You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (4)*

### **The Bottom Line**

To experience God's perfect love and have no fear of Him requires that we are in \_\_\_\_\_ with Him!

*God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. 1 John 4:9-10*