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## WHAT IS THE GOAL, THE PRIZE? DO WE HAVE TO WAIT TILL HEAVEN TO RECEIVE IT? PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14

Wouldn't it be great if our #1 <u>GOAL</u> in life aligned with our #1 <u>NEED</u> in life and with God's #1 PURPOSE for our life?

## "JESUS, WHAT IS GOD'S #1 DESIRE, INTENTION OR PURPOSE?" MATTHEW 22:36-39

In one word - LOVE!

The Secret Sauce/Missing Ingredient - "...As YOURSELF."

Who wants to fulfill God's purpose for their life? If you do there's a very important question you need to answer...WHY DID HE CREATE YOU?

So that He could LOVE you!

The ultimate goal in life - R & R in the Father's love! Learning to <u>RECEIVE</u> and <u>REST</u> in God's Love for you!

We love Him, because He FIRST loved us. 1 John 4:19

## WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR MOST PEOPLE TO R & R IN THE FATHER'S LOVE? MATTHEW 10:8

"We love Him because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19).

It's not that we "love God because he first loved us", but that "we love period (Him, ourselves, and others) because He first loved us."

We are loved into loving.

Parents awaken love in the heart of a child by loving them.

A child is awakened to love for self by being loved.

When a child is not loved and valued by her parents she doesn't stop loving her parents — she stops loving herself.

A child of God is awakened to love by being loved by God. God is love.

Just as no child can be awakened to love without being loved by parent(s), so too no Christ-follower can come to know and enjoy God without experiencing His love for them personally.



We automatically give as we've learned to receive.

Everyone agrees with this statement- "God loves me." BUT...

Who has experienced love so consistently and in such a deep and powerful way that it is the daily reality from/in which you EFFORTLESSLY live?

Intellectual agreement without repeated, impactful <u>EXPERIENCES</u> doesn't change your daily reality.

Key question: What do you need and where/how/to Whom do you look to get it? Exodus 20

Your entire life is <u>SHAPED</u> by what you need/want and HOW (to whom or what and at what cost) you've learned to get it.

## HOW DO I RE-TRAIN MY SOUL EVERY DAY BY FOCUSING ON THIS ONE THING? JOHN 7:37: 4:13-14

- 1. Learn to look to God FIRST & MOST for EVERYTHING you need!
- 2. Identify and deal with your IDOLS!

IDOL - any <u>PERSON</u> or thing we run to or rely on to meet needs only God can meet.

3. PRACTICE Receiving & Resting in The Father's Love every day!

