



THE GIFT

Proof That It's Real • Romans 5:5-9

MESSAGE NOTES

1. Problems can cause us to question.

- Pressures
- Personal struggles
- Is this really going to turn out ok?
- Does God really love me?

2. Proof gives us reassurance.

- **Proof #1** - Our present personal experience of God Himself in our hearts (v. 5)
- **Proof #2** – Jesus' one-time of dying for us (vv. 6-8)

Stand-alone proof – “Christ died for us”

Situational proof – “in due time”

Though we are powerless to help ourselves

Though we are His enemies who deserve His judgment and wrath

*For God so loved **the world** that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16)*

*He loved **us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation for **our** sins (1 John 4:10)*

*The Son of God who loved **me** and gave Himself for **me** (Galatians 2:20)*

*Christ also loved **the church** and gave Himself for **her** (Ephesians 5:25)*

- **Reassurance**

You are loved by God:

- No matter how unlovable you think you are.
- No matter how unlovable you really are.

Your problems are opportunities to experience God's love for you.

- Your personal inadequacies and failures
- Your sin problem

When you question God's love
listen to the Spirit
and
look at what Jesus did
on the cross.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Romans 5:5-8

Why do problems sometimes cause us to question God's love?

Have you ever been through a situation in which you wondered, Is this really going to turn out ok? Maybe you'd like to share it with the group.

Have you ever wondered, Does God really love me? What are some examples of situations that would prompt this question?

What are we thinking about when we ask these questions?

Verse 5 says "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Would anyone like to share your own experience of the reassuring work of the Holy Spirit in your own life during a time of trouble?

Verse 8 tell us, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." What is your own personal testimony of how this proves God's love for you?

Verse 8 expresses this love as being very personal, "His own love toward us." How does this encourage you?

What are some reasons a person might think of themselves as being unlovable?

What are some reasons that we really are unlovable?

How are your personal struggles and inadequacies opportunities to experience God's love?

How is your sin problem an opportunity to experience God's love?

How can we help ourselves and each other when we are questioning God's love?