

**Sermon: Accept a Perfect Love**

**March 14, 2021**

**Scripture: 1 John 4:9-10, 14**

**I. *God's love for us was proven by the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. 1 John 4:9-10, 14; John 3:16;  
Romans 5:6-8; John 15:13; John 10:17-18***

**II. Experience \_\_\_\_\_ for your  
life. John 10:9-11**

**1. Beware of a false purpose. (10a)**

**2. Only settle for the abundant life offered to you. Romans 4:25-  
5:5 Romans 8:31-32; John 10:27-29; Romans 8:38-39**

**III. *We are protected from \_\_\_\_\_ (4:18).***

**Thought for the Day** Life often puts us in places where there seems to be no good way out. In this series we have learned the key to turning our lives over to God is we must trust God's sovereignty, realize God has a plan and He loves us with a perfect love. When life changing tragedies occur in our lives feeling Gods love is often impossible especially if we believe He is all powerful and in control of all things. The prevailing thought is if he loved me, he would not let this happen. When we consider his plan, we replace faith with human reasoning and we just can't figure it out. When you put feeling with human reasoning you will produce doubt and eventually despair. God's love is not a feeling it is a fact. Eternal life, the presence of the Holy Spirit are facts. The times when we are tempted and we take a God given suggestion and are delivered are facts. It's ok to ask God with our unbelief. It's Ok to say I don't understand. In our minds we have the fear that life will never get any better. 1 John 4:18a There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. We feel the torment but we don't have to stay there. Jesus has a way of assuring us that we are safe because of the fact He has conquered all things, even death. When we trust the fact of His love we can trust He has a plan for us and He has the power to make sure it happens. When you can't feel the love trust the fact that it is real. Focus on the fact and not the feeling. We do not fear when we are confident the power in control of the situation is able to overcome what we fear.

**Pastor Bruce**

What's happening with our Youth Ministry today?

**Junior Disciples: AM Church Service**

Today we are continuing curriculum called "The Core". Over the next year we'll be learning about the 8 "roots" of discipleship, Apologetics, Community, Identity, Kingdom, Knowledge, Outreach, Rescue and Worship. This week we'll begin our "Apologetics" root. How to engage the culture is a tough question for Christ-followers young and old. Should we stick to only having friends who also follow Christ? Should our fun only involve church activities? Or should we only dress and act based on the latest trends and fashions? This is tough, and many young people who are earnestly trying to follow Christ get turned around navigating the culture conversation. Instead of focusing on a list of restrictions or boundaries, this lesson will focus on a few examples of followers of God who approached the topic of faith in culture the right way. It will also help start a discussion to uncover the nuances of this difficult topic. There is also a parent's guide that goes along with these lessons that includes activities your families can do to continue learning during the week. Please let me know if you are not receiving my emails.

**Senior High Youth Group: Thursday Nights at 7 PM**

On Thursday nights our senior high youth group will be meeting in the youth building. Right now we are working through a study in the book of James with Francis Chan. In the study he unpacks the dense truth contained in the book of James in front of the iconic backdrop of San Francisco, the city where he lives and ministers. Through 12 sessions, Francis works through James verse-by-verse, challenging followers of Christ to move beyond a private, intellectual knowledge of God and His Word, to a vibrant faith that impacts every square inch of life.

**Our God**

Water You turned into wine  
Opened the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like You  
None like You

Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like You  
None like You

Chorus

Our God is greater  
Our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is healer  
Awesome in power our God our God

Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like You  
None like You

Chorus

And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against  
And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against  
(Then) what could stand against

Chorus