



**The Most Important Thing
You Need to Know**

Francis Anfuso

John 17:26 – Jesus says

“...I have revealed You to them and will keep on revealing You. I will do this so that Your love for Me may be in them and I in them.”

Psalm 36:8, NKJV

They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures.

Not knowing God's love is the root of all of the problems in life.

Ephesians 3:18-19, NLT

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Why People Believe “God Couldn't Love Me!”

1. What I've done has disappointed Him.
2. I can't live up to His expectations of me.

John 15:9, NLT

I have loved you even as the Father has loved Me. Remain in My love.

John 17:23, NLT – Jesus said to His Father

“I in them and You in Me, all being perfected into one. Then the world will know that You sent Me and will understand that You love them as much as You love Me.”

God's not mad at you, He's mad about you. God can't love you any more or less than He does right now. He's always been at peak love!

Why I Need to Know God Loves Me

1. I must first receive God's love before I can fully love Him and other people in return.
2. My identity and destiny are linked to how God sees me.
3. The only way I will ever experience the deep satisfaction I am longing for is in realizing I bring God divine pleasure. He is deeply satisfied in who I am. There is nothing I need to do to make God like me. He already does.

Song of Solomon 7:10

I am my beloved's and his desire is toward me.

4. Unless I find my true identity as someone who is loved by God, and in love with God, I will spend my life languishing in the despair of insignificance.
5. I won't pursue a love relationship with God today if I believe it is only possible tomorrow.
6. Unless I receive God's passionate love for me and love Him in return, I will eventually fall into spiritual boredom, even chasing after the empty pleasures of this world.

“We are half-hearted creatures fooling about with alcohol and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered to us. We are like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because we cannot imagine what is meant by an offer of a holiday at the sea.”
-C.S. Lewis

Psalm 16:11b, NKJV

In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

“We must swallow up the flicker of sin's pleasure in the forest fire of holy satisfaction. The only thing that will ultimately break the power of sin is passion for Jesus. The only thing that will guard me from being entrapped by sin is being entranced by Jesus.”

-Sam Storms

Pleasures Evermore: The Life Changing Power of Enjoying God

Hebrews 11:24-26 – Moses proved this

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to **enjoy the passing pleasures of sin**, esteeming **the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures** in Egypt; for he looked to the reward...

Psalm 27:4, BBE – David wrote

I have asked the Lord for one thing – this is what I desire! I want to live in the Lord's house all the days of my life, so I can gaze at the splendor of the Lord and contemplate in His temple.

7. I can only change the way I think about something by accepting the way God thinks about something (e.g., His heart for me, His heart for others).