



Part 10 Intense Affection *Matt. 23:37*

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.” Matt. 23:37

This shows four dimensions of God’s love for me:

1. God’s _____ love for me

“...you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed...” Matt. 23:37

“As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it...” Luke 19:41

2. God’s _____ love for me

“...to gather your children together as a hen...” Matt. 23:37

“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.” Isa. 66:13

3. God’s _____ love for me

“...gathers her chicks...” Matt. 23:37

“You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.” Ps. 32:7

4. God’s _____ love for me

“...under her wings...” Matt. 23:37

“He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield...” Ps. 91:4

Question: Am I _____ ?

“...but you were not willing.” Matt. 23:37

God’s love is never _____ !

Application Questions:

1. Who am I weeping for with a “hen gathers her chicks” type of love?
2. Am I responding to this kind of love for me?

Daily Meditations

Here’s a chance to spend some time each day this week meditating on today’s topic!

This week’s memory verse: *“He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.” Ps. 91:4*

Monday

Read Matthew 23:37. Look back over your notes from last weekend. What strikes you most about God’s love for you?

How have you felt His intense affection for you in the last week?

In what ways do you want your love for others to become more like God’s love for you?

How does God’s love comfort you on a daily basis?

Thank God today for His intense love and affection for you. Thank Him for the example His love is to you. Pray that you’ll be willing to rest in His love for you. Ask Him to continually mold your love to be a accurate reflection of His love.

Tuesday

Read Lamentations 3:20-23, Matt. 23:37 & Luke 19:41. Using these verses, write down the adjectives that describe God’s love.

What does *vulnerable* love mean to you?

How does it impact you to know that God is willing to have a *vulnerable* love... for you?

What prevents *you* from showing a vulnerable love to people?

Think of a person you're struggling with. How would a more vulnerable love on your part impact that relationship?

Thank God today for His example of love towards you. Pray that your love towards others will be vulnerable. Pray that the vulnerable love you show to others will be healing in their lives. Ask God for the confidence to love others in your life out of the abundance of His love for you.

Wednesday

Read Isa. 66:13-14 & Matt. 23:37. Write down five words that describe what a mother's love should be like.

How have you sensed that *motherly* love from God?

What impacts you most about the comparison between a mother's love and God's love for you?

Think about those in your life you find it difficult to show love to or those who are not responding to your love. How can you apply this type of love to those relationships? How would that impact that those relationships?

Thank God today for His unfailing, mother-like love for you. Thank Him for the example of love He sets for you. Pray that your love for others will reflect His love. Ask for grace and wisdom for the strained relationships in your life right now.

Thursday

Read Ps. 32:7, Matt. 23:37 & 1 Cor. 13:4-7. What does *protective* love mean to you?

What comforts you about this dimension of God's love for you?

How can you demonstrate this type of love towards others?

Thank God today for His protective love for you. Thank Him for His never-ending care and concern for you. Ask Him to give you the courage to love others the way He loves you.

Friday

Ps. 36:7, 57:1, 91:4 & Matt. 23:37. Why is it sometimes difficult for you to receive God's *comforting* love?

Write down the three biggest challenges you are facing right now. Next to each challenge write down how God's comforting love can help and encourage you.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Think of someone you know who needs to be reminded of God's comforting love. Take a moment to write a short note to them and include one of the verses you read today.

Thank God today for His comforting love. Thank Him for His sovereignty in your life. Ask Him to soften your heart to His comforting love. Pray for those in your life who need God's comfort today.

Saturday

Today please finish any meditations you might have missed, and please pray for the services this weekend. Pray also for the Easter services coming up soon-- and be praying about who you can invite! Thanks!! Thank God today for His amazing love and affection for you. Rest in and enjoy His love today.