Absolute, Sovereign, Almighty Love by John Piper Solid Joys, desiringGod.org

"The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." (Exodus 34:6)

You might even risk saying that God is like a government that simply prints more money when there's a need. Inex haustible, right? Well, there's a differ-

God abounds in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Two images come to my mind:

- The heart of God is like an inexhaustible spring of water that bubbles up love and faithfulness at the top of the mountain. Century after century the spring keeps on flowing.
- 2. Or the heart of God is like a volcano that burns so hot with love that it blasts the top off the mountain and flows year after year with the lava of love and faithfulness.

When God uses the word "abounding" — "abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" — he wants us to understand and feel that the resources of his love are not limited. You can drink at this mountain spring all day, year after year, generation after generation, and it never runs dry.

You might even risk saying that God is like a government that simply prints more money when there's a need. Inexhaustible, right? Well, there's a difference. God has an infinite treasury of golden love to cover all the currency he prints. The government is in a dream world. God banks very realistically on the infinite resources of his deity.

The absolute existence, the sovereign freedom, and the omnipotence of God are the volcanic fullness that explodes in an overflow of love. The sheer magnificence of God means that he does not need us to fill up any deficiency in himself. Instead his infinite self-sufficiency spills over in love to us — to sinners — who need him, and the gift of himself in Jesus.

We can bank on his love precisely because we believe in the absoluteness of his existence, the sovereignty of his freedom, and the limitlessness of his power.



TODAY
College & Career Lunch 1 PM
Hawfields 3 PM
10/18 Greater Vision Banquet
6 PM
10/27 Bridal Shower for Mandy
Holt 2 PM @ the Dill's
11/2-3 Parenting Conference,

Paul David Tripp

Give

Upcoming Events





Pastors

Gary Hendrix Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton Michael Lopes

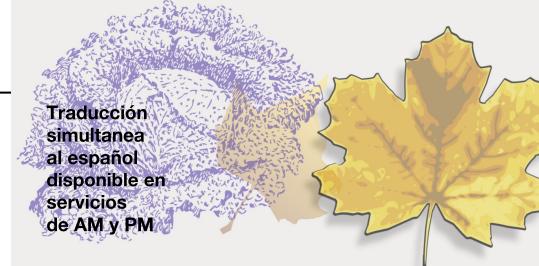
Service Times

- -Sunday School 9:30 am
- -Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- —Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- -Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

919-563-9249 www.grbc.net



Behold the Lamb of God



Morning Worship

Call to Worship Opening Hymn Scripture Reading Pastoral Prayer Offertory Pastor Michael Lopes #136 Ye Servants of God John 11:17-37, page 897

#590 Peace, Perfect Peace

10,000 Reasons

(Chorus)

Preparatory

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes. **(Chorus)**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. **(Chorus)**

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come; still, my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years, and then forever more! (Chorus 2x)

I'll worship Your holy name, I'll worship Your holy name.

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Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

Evening Worship

Call to Worship Nick Gaines
Opening Hymn Knowing You

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own; All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this.

(Refrain) Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You, there is no greater thing. You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know You more, to be found in You and known as Yours.

To possess by faith what I could not earn, all-surpassing gift of righteousness. **(Refrain)**

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life and to know You in Your sufferings; To become like You in Your death, my Lord, so with You to live and never die. **(Refrain 2x)**

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Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:27-2:13, page 980

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory #439 Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness

Preparatory Lord, I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest. Without You I fall apart. You're the One that guides my heart.

(Chorus) Lord, I need You, oh I need You. Every hour I need You. My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found is where You are.

And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

(Chorus)

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way. And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay. And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay. (Chorus)

You're my one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You. My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.

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Sermon

Pastor Charles Fortner