

# The December Christmas Gift

*“By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for our brethren.”*

*1 Jn 3:16*

The greatest gift that God gave to mankind was His only begotten Son (Jn 3:16). His Son at Calvary was the true expression of His love for the sinful world (Rom 5:8). The whole gospel was encapsulated in the parable of the prodigal son. Herein, you find the father representing God has such great compassion and love for His wayward son (Lk 15:20). It was love that saved and redeemed us (1 Jn 4:9).

By the born again experience, the love of God was shed abroad in our hearts (Rom 5:5). What is the degree of His love? “Beloved, if God so loved us...” (1 Jn 4:11) Notice the word “so”. God loves us deeply! Our love for God is a reciprocal response to this initiative love, for “He first loved us”. (1 Jn 4:19) If we do not learn love, we know not God (1 Jn 4:8). For God is love!

When His love fills our hearts, every dread and fears will leave our soul. True obedience is born out of the depth of love relationship (1 Jn 5:3). Love will make us disciples of love to love one another (1 Jn 4:7,11). When we love one another, His love will be perfected and matured in us (1 Jn 4:12). We will be filled with boldness in the day of judgement (1 Jn 4:17). We will have great confidence of faith in our prayers (1 Jn 3:16-22). We shall walk in a manner that pleases Him and His spirit is alive flowing through us (1 Jn 3:22,24).

By love, we passed from death to life (1 John 3:14)