



BECOMING

Becoming as  
We Remain  
in God's Love

<sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

<sup>8</sup>This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

John 15:4-9 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

John 15:9 (NIV)

Receive Perfect Love

## **Hesed - “steadfast love” (Exodus 34:6-7)**

- 250 occurrences in OT
- “Unfailing love, goodness, mercy, etc.”
- Not translatable into English “love” - the essence is loving commitment instead of loving affection/feeling



<sup>5</sup>The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

<sup>7</sup>keeping steadfast love for thousands,  
forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,  
but who will by no means clear the guilty,  
visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the  
children and the children's children, to the  
third and the fourth generation.”

Exodus 34:5-7 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;  
<sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Lamentations 3:22-24 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

John 15:9 (NIV)

“The Father, then, is not about sprinkling blessings from afar, and his salvation is not about being kept at a distance, merely pitied and forgiven by our Creator. Instead, he pours all his blessings out on his Son, and then sends him that we might share his glorious fullness.

The Father so loves that he desires to catch us up into that loving fellowship he enjoys with the Son. And that means I can know God as he truly is: as Father. In fact, I can know the Father as my Father.”

Michael Reeves, *Delighting in the Trinity*, 71

Remain in  
Perfect Love

<sup>18</sup> Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,<sup>19</sup> that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.



<sup>21</sup>For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. <sup>22</sup>Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Psalms 33:18-22 (ESV)