

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life” John 3:16**

### Brief Outline

- A. God loves us and wants to be in a personal relationship with us. God is love and offers us the fullness of life and holiness.
- B. During the Life in the Spirit Seminar we will look at the saving presence of Jesus Christ, as well as the life of God’s Holy Spirit.
- C. God has begun this new life in us through the sacraments of Baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. During the seminar we hope to rediscover this gift.

### Questions to Consider:

1. Do people you know search for happiness and peace, or for God?
2. What does it mean to have an intimate and personal relationship with God?
3. How do you feel when you approach God?
4. How does the reality of God being love change your view of God, love, and yourself?
5. All “love” is not the same. Consider for a few minutes the meaning that today’s culture attaches to “love”. Compare this to the Love of God.

### Committing to God’s Process

Throughout the next seven weeks commit yourself to seeking the Lord and what ever He is doing through this seminar to bring you even closer to himself. Ask Him to give you...

- A Clear mind
- Eyes that are open to see what He is doing
- A heart that is ready to receive.

Give yourself time to be with the Lord who loves you each day. Take 5-15 minutes throughout the next week just to be with Him. Turn off all of your devices or put them in another room so you can focus on him alone. Read through the Daily Words of Life and suggested scripture. Pray the commitment prayer and invoke the Holy Spirit.

***Come Holy Spirit and fill the hearts of your people and enkindle in us the fire of your love, Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.***

***O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit does instruct the hearts of the faithful grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His Consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**Study:** This week, the two chapters we will read are concerned with who Jesus Christ is and how he saves us. The are: John 1, Colossians 1



**Life in the  
Spirit  
Seminar**

**WEEK 1**

**GOD’S  
LOVE**

Daily Words of Life

**Day 1** - God is not distant or unreachable. Neither is He looking to punish you for every offense. He is a father who loves you. Hear him speaking these words over you from Jeremiah 31:3 RSV “ *I have loved you with an everlasting love and so I still maintain my faithful love for you.*”

**Day 2** - You can know God and how much He loves you. He wants an intimate, personal relationship with each of us as His son or daughter and seeks to remove any barriers or distance between you. Meditate on His promise made through Jerimiah: “*I will be their God and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,*” declares the LORD. “*For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.*”

**Day 3** - We are His beloved. John tells us in 1John 4:19 that “We love because He first loved us. “ He loves you and as we receive His love we then can then return it to Him and to those around us. You are loveable because Jesus first love you and gave his life for you. (John 3:16)Ask him this day “Lord what lies am I believing that keep me from receiving all the love you have for me? Would you show me your truth?” Write down anything you sense or see or hear him say to you.

**Day 4** - Because He loves us, God sent his only son to save us. He sent Jesus so that we might have life, a better life now, a life that will last with him eternally.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16, RSV)

Day 5 - God loves you. He is speaking to you now, reaching out to you. He is saying to you:

*Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!...*

*Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy?*

*Listen, then to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.*

*Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant.*

(Isaiah 55:1-3, JB)

**Day 6** - If you wish to know God, if you wish to have the life he offers, you can. Just turn to him and reach out to him. He invites you:

I know the plans I have in mind for you—it is the Lord who speaks—plans for peace, not disaster, reserving a future full of hope for you. Then when you call to me, and come to plead with me, I will listen to you. When you seek me, you shall find me.

(adapted from Jer 29-11-13, JB)

**Day 7** - Sometimes God seems so far away. Sometimes it seems like we can never reach him. But he is not far away. He is very close to you, and right now he is trying to show himself to you in a fuller way than ever before. He promises:

*The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.*

(Psalm 145:18, RSV)

<b>Commitment Prayer</b>
<p>Jesus, I know now that I am Yours and You are mine forever.          Thank You for sending Your spirit to me that I might have the power to live this new life with You.          Stir up Your Spirit in me. Release Your Spirit in me.          Baptize me with the fullness of Your Spirit that I may experience Your presence and power in my life.          That I may find new meaning in your Scriptures.          That I may find new meaning in the sacraments.          That I may find delight and comfort in prayer.          That I may be able to love as you love and forgive as You forgive          That I may discover and use the gifts you give me for the life of the Church.          That I may experience the peace and the joy that you have promised us.          Fill me with Your Spirit, Jesus. I wish to receive all that You have to give me.</p> <p>Amen</p>
<b>Resources:</b>
<p>“God’s Love Poured Out”          The Wild Goose – segment 1 (Father Dave Pivonka)  <a href="https://youtu.be/bzNhIvGuEIQ">https://youtu.be/bzNhIvGuEIQ</a></p> <p>Songs:          Amazing Love - Chris Tomlin  <a href="https://youtu.be/8yFwDvSWTbA">https://youtu.be/8yFwDvSWTbA</a></p> <p>Reckless Love (Lyric Video) // Bethel Worship // Steffany Gretzinger  <a href="https://youtu.be/7N5IMa5o7k8">https://youtu.be/7N5IMa5o7k8</a></p> <p>Set A Fire with lyrics- Will Regan &amp; United Pursuit Band (Seminar Theme)  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fs6bdFzgQfY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fs6bdFzgQfY</a></p> <p>Talks from the Pentecostal Renewal version of Life in the Spirit are on our website at: <a href="https://www.stmva.org/lits.html">https://www.stmva.org/lits.html</a></p>
<p>Helpful Passages</p> <p>Jn. 3:16, Jn. 1:12, Jn 10:10b, Jn. 14:23, Rev. 3:20, Is 45:18-19, Ez 34:15-16, Ps. 145:18,          Suggested Readings: Ps. 139, Ez. 34:11-16, Rm. 8:28-39</p>