

 **MAGDALEN ROAD CHURCH**



# **DAY AWAY**

**SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022**  
**LONG CRENDON BAPTIST CHURCH**

## The Heart of Christ

### Importance of knowing God

<sup>23</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom,  
let not the mighty man boast in his might,  
let not the rich man boast in his riches,  
but let him who boasts boast in this,  
that he understands and knows me,  
that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love,  
justice, and righteousness in the earth.  
For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”

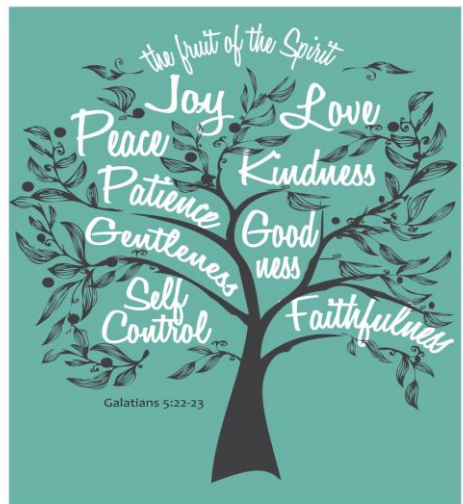
(Jer 9:23-24 ESV)

### Beholding Christ

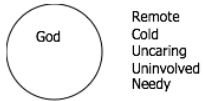
<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Cor 3:18)

→ Don't celebrate the gifts but forget the giver

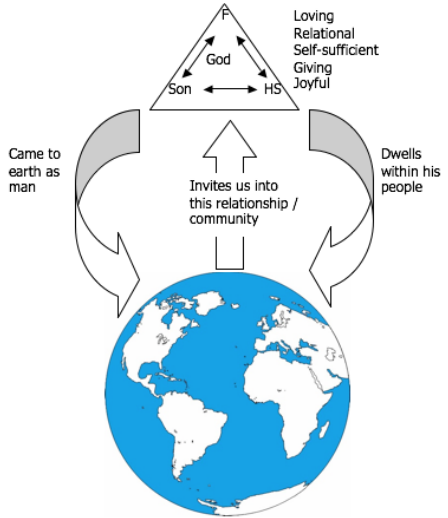
### The fruit of the Spirit in the life of Christ



# Love



**The common view of God**



**The Biblical view of God:  
God the Trinity**

For reflection...  
When did God start to love?

Could a God who wasn't triune really be loving?

## Jesus' KINDNESS: he gives to the undeserving

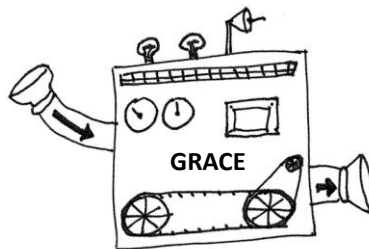
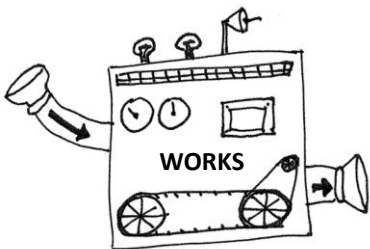
But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. (Tit 3:4-5 NIV)

### Saved by grace = saved through his kindness and generosity

<sup>4</sup>But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup>made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup>And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – <sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Eph 2:4-10 NIV)

### A wrong view:



## Kind and generous in all things

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be <sup>Ⓜ</sup> against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? (Rom 8:31-32 ESV)

→ Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ (cf 2 Cor 9:7)

## Application

- Come to God when you sin

'God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance'  
(Rom 2:4)

- Be kind to others

<sup>32</sup> 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

***For reflection:***

What has struck you from this session?

What can you pray in response to this session?

How are we often tempted to view God as ungenerous towards us? Why?

What would Christians' lives be like if they were utterly convinced of the kindness and generosity of God?

## The Joy of Christ

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:11)

Well done, good and faithful servant (...) Enter into the joy of your master. (Matt 25:23)

### Jesus rejoices in creation

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Col 1:16-17 ESV)

<sup>27</sup> When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
<sup>28</sup> when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
<sup>29</sup> when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him, like a master workman,  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the children of man.  
(Prov 8:27-31 ESV, cf Job 38:4-7)

## Jesus rejoices in life

- \_\_\_\_\_ (John 2:1-12)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 9:9-13)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 11:19)

## Jesus rejoices in saving us

### Luke 15

- Lost sheep
- Lost coin
- Lost son

→ Where is the joy in these parables?

## Jesus rejoices in our (faltering) progress in the faith

Paul describes himself as following the example of Christ (1 Cor 11:1).

- Look what brings Paul joy
- Then hear Jesus saying these same words

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy. (1 Thess 2:19 ESV)

It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to



walk in it. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

(3 John 3-4; cf 2 Cor 7:2-9, 13-16)

### **Jesus rejoices in his bride**

<sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your righteousness,  
and all the kings your glory,  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

<sup>4</sup>You shall no more be termed Forsaken,  
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,  
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,  
and your land Married;  
for the LORD delights in you,  
and your land shall be married.

<sup>5</sup>For as a young man marries a young woman,  
so shall your builder marry you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,  
so shall your God rejoice over you.

(Is 62:2-5 ESV; cf Ps 45, Zeph 3:17)

What will be the expression on Jesus' face as he welcomes you to glory?