

# Desire To Know God's Love

Sermon Title: **Desire To Know God's Love**

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Speaker: **Elisha Bronner**

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Elisha Bronner: It's not a duty to read your Bible. It's an invitation to know God Himself.

Female: You are listening to [BrothersoftheWord.com](http://BrothersoftheWord.com). This is the sermon titled, Desire To Know God's Love, by Elisha Bronner. This sermon is number 6539.

(Music Playing: 00:00:15 - 00:00:27)

Female: And now for, Desire To Know God's Love.

Elisha Bronner: God, He's after our hearts. He's after relationship, He's after unity with us.

Welcome to Brothers of the Word, because brother and sister, you need the Word.

So, I'm really excited about this message. This is something that the Lord placed in my heart a long time ago, and I'm really just excited just to share what He has to say to you all tonight.

Yeah. So, last year, I went on a mission trip to Honduras. It was a medical mission trip. So, we were seeing patients and we were handing out medicines, vitamins, we were doing intake and just praying with people and seeing what was wrong with them and just being able to figure where we can meet needs where they had them. And while I loved the mission trip, I loved everything about it. I love seeing the patients, I love playing with the kids, I love praying with people.

There was one part of the mission trip that was the most impactful part for me, which was, the time where we had finished doing kids ministry and the mission trip leader took us onto this mountain and he was like, "Okay, now we're going to do a prayer walk." This is just a time where it was going to be us and the Lord and not with any partners or anything, not praying for people, just us and the Lord, just walking to the mountains, praying for the nation, praying for the people and praying for just what God is doing in that country.

And so, we took this time where we just went and we're praying and we're on this mountain, and so like -- I'm like walking through this mountain and just like, looking and just like, seeing beautiful, beautiful mountain and just like looking at this

mountain and I was just so amazed by it because it was just the beauty and the splendor. I'm like, "God, you created this." Like, "You, the God of all the earth." Like, "You created this mountain and like, you put this here and it's to display Your Glory."

And so, the lyrics to a popular worship song came to mind and the song is called, "So Will I" by Hillsong and one of the lyrics is, "If the mountains bow in reverence, so will I." And so that lyric, it just kept playing over and over in head. And I was just thinking like, "Lord, the mountains are here and they're bowing in reverence to You, God, because God, You are so Mighty, You're so magnificent. The mountains bow in reverence to You." And the song goes on and it says, "If the stars are made to worship, so will I." And it says, "If the wind goes where You send it, so will I."

And I started thinking about this and I'm like, "God, everything in nature, everything that You've created, all of it, is to glorify You. All of it, lifts you up. All of it magnifies You, because you are the Creator of it."

And in Romans Chapter 1 verse 20 it says, "There is no excuse for not knowing God because everything that He created reflects Him and it tells of Him." It tells of God, right? And so, I'm sitting there on this mountain just thinking about that and I'm thinking like, "God, you created everything in nature and all of it glorifies you. So why did you create us? Like humans?" Because we don't always glorify God. We don't always glorify God with our actions, with our words, but everything in nature, it glorifies God and it glorifies Him perfectly because He created it and it was good, and it reflects the Creator. The creation reflects the Creator.

And so, I'm thinking, "God, the mountains always bow in reverence, but I don't. The stars always worship You, but I don't. The oceans always know Your Greatness, but I don't." And everything in nature, it always tells us of the goodness of God and they always obey, because when God spoke in the beginning and it was. But when God tells me to do something, I don't always do it and I'm like, "God, everything in nature, all of creation obeys You and it worships You and it glorifies You, but we don't."

So why did you create us? Because God, if you're only looking for glory, He wouldn't have created us, because You created man on the sixth day. He had already created everything as we were the last thing that He created. So, He wouldn't have created us if all

He was after was glory. He didn't need us. He was already giving the glory from everything in the world, He did not need us.

And so, I'm like, "God, why did you create us? What was it that You wanted from man that You couldn't get from anything else? Like, just why?" Because we fail. We fail so many times and we sin and we rebel against God, yet He knew that, but He's just still chose to create. So, I said, "God, why? Why did you create us?"

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And so again, if glory was the only reason that God created us, He wouldn't have because He was already receiving all the glory from everything else. And so, I'm asking God, "Why? Why are creating us?" And He tells me, "It's because having the glory from everything else wasn't enough. I wanted a relationship." Because He loved the mountains, bow in reverence and the stars worship and the trees, everything that lives gotten high, He can't have relationship with any of that. But with us, He can have relationship.

And so, when I was on this mountain, I was having this conversation with God. I'm just like, "God, why did you create us? Because You knew that we were sinners. You knew what was going to happen. You knew the fall was going to happen. You knew that we're going to be separated from You." And He said, "Because having the glory from everything else wasn't enough, I created you for Me. I didn't create you to do things for Me, but I created you to be with Me. So, we're in relationship, there needs to be a communion with Me, just be in unity with Me."

That is why He created us, because while we are the only creation of His that can rebel, we are also the only creation that He draws back to Him. We are the only ones that fell away, but the we are the only ones that He restores unto Himself. We are the only ones that go and that pursue sin, after sin, after sin, but we are the only ones that He sent His son Jesus to die for, because of our sins, so that we can be put back into our relationship with our Father.

That is why He created us, because He wanted a relationship. He wasn't after glory, but He was after relationship. He wasn't after us doing things for Him and just talking about Him and lifting Him up, but He was after closeness. He was after intimacy. And

so, because God is a God of intimacy, that is why He created us, because He is love itself and He had love to give. So, He had to create an object that could receive His love, that could live in His love, that could abide in His love, and that is why we are here.

And so even though we sin, and even though our sins separate us from God, as we see in Romans Chapter 3 verses 23 and 24 it says, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." And its only humans, everything that's out there is still glorifying God as it was made to do, as it was created to do. And while we were created to be in relationship with God, as we were in the Garden of Eden, God walked among Adam and Eve. But when they took the fruit and they ate it, there is a disconnect and they were separated. There became a separation between God and His creation.

And so, God, He's after our hearts. He's after our relationship. He's after unity with us. And so, because He desires that relationship, He chose to send Jesus who was the only one who can fill in the gap because He's the only one who lived a perfect life that could take on our sin, die in the cross, raise again, to allow us to walk into this relationship with Him. And so, while God does desire glory from our lives because in 1st Corinthians Chapter 10 verse 31 it says, "Whether you eat or drink, do it all for the glory of God." While He does desire that from us, He knows that ultimately, we just don't always do that. We fall short.

And so, by sending Jesus and allowing us to step into that relationship, we're able to give God glory through intimacy with Him. John Piper says, "God is most glorified in you when you are most satisfied in Him." So, instead of us trying to go out and do things for God, God is simply asking us just to be with Him, just to come and be in a place where it's just you and the Lord, where you can just have this place of intimacy because that is what God is after. God is after our hearts. He's after us. He's after having a relationship and not just any relationship, He wants a close relationship. And so, while we can do things for God, and God is pleased with that, but He's only pleased with it when it comes from a place of intimacy.

In Matthew Chapter 6, it talks about the Pharisees and how they are putting on this religious show and people can tell that they're religious and that they say the right things, and act a certain way and they go out and they pray, for people to see them and they're putting on their show. But they're doing it for people. It's not

coming out of a place of intimacy, but God, they're doing it for a show, for people. But in reality, they didn't really know Jesus. So, I was reading that Matthew Chapter 6 and God said, "You can appear as religious as you want and you can act like a Christian as much as you want to. You can fool people; you can fool everyone." I can be up here preaching and still not have relationship with God. But He said, "But only I know when you are truly abiding in Me, and that is what I want." It is not the show, it is not the fame, it is not the glamor, and none of that is important if it doesn't come out of a place of intimacy with the Father.

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Because that is why He created us because He is getting the glory from everything out there. He is already giving that glory. He doesn't need us for glory. He wants us for relationship. And so, in John Chapter 15, Jesus talks about this and He talks about how He is the Vine and we are the branches and we have to abide in Him, we have to stay connected, we have to stay rooted, we have to commune with Him. He says, "Abide in Me and I in you as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine. Neither can you unless you abide in Me."

So, sometimes, I think it's a natural desire for us to want to go out and like, do things for God. You know like, us, people who are raised in the church, who had been coming to church for a long time like, you see people doing great things for God and you're like, "You know, I want to do that." Like, it seems like, it's a really cool thing to do and like, I know for me like, I desire. And to say, "God, I want to do really great things for You." But we can't do great things for Him unless it is coming from a place that abiding with Him and when we abide with Him, we recognize that is the greatest thing that we can do for Him. Because He doesn't just want our actions or our words or our stuff, He wants our hearts.

And so, when we abide in Him, that is where the fruit comes from. He produces the fruit when we abide. So, when we abide, He naturally places us and in front of people who we can share the Word of God with. And it might not be on a stage, it might not be on a platform, it might be your coworkers, your neighbors, your friends, your family members. It might not be often some foreign country in some foreign land, it's going to be here, the people around you for you to share with them the love of Christ. Because

as we abide, we become more like Him. As we abide, He is the One producing the fruits in our lives and as we abide, the people would be able to see that we belong to Him.

Because in John Chapter 13 Verse 35, Jesus tells his disciples that the world is going to know that You're my disciples by your love and how can we love apart from Love himself, we have to be connected in order to receive His love and give His love to the world. That kind of love can only come from a place of abiding with the Father, because everywhere they kind of love, it's human love and it falls short and it is selfish and it is not agape love, where you're giving and giving and giving and expecting nothing in return. That only comes from abiding with the Father. And when we abide with Him and have that kind of love, that is how people will know that we belong to Him. That's how people will know Jesus.

And so, when we abide, He produces the fruit in us. So, verse 5 in John Chapter 15, it says, "I am the vine, you are the branches, whoever abides in Me and I in Him, it is Him that produces much fruit for apart from Me you can do nothing." So, like I said before, we might have these desires to do great things for the Lord and to go out and reach people and build these huge things. But if you're not doing it out of a place of connecting with God and utter a place of intimacy with the Father, it is nothing. It will have no eternal value because God desires us first to abide in Him and then He will produce the fruit. It's not the other way around. We can't get it twisted. We have to abide first with the Father. And when we abide with Him, first we get to know Him and you all, this is the greatest blessing.

So, when we abide with Him, we get to know His Heart, we get to know His Character and we're reading His Word and we get to know who He is. We have a living God who desires intimacy with his fallen creation. We have a living God who desires to know us, who desires for us to know Him, to have this close relationship. When we abide with the Father, we get to know His Voice.

So many people are like, "I want to hear God speak to me, I want to know God's voice. Like, how I do get to hear God?" Read your Bible, it's there. That is the written Word of God when you read your Bible, that is how He speaks to you. He is not going to do send some big huge sign; He's speaking to you through His Word and He gives it to you.

Especially here in this country, we have so many Bible made readily available to us. Well, in other parts of the world, people are being killed for having a Bible. We have them, we should read them, it's not a duty to read your Bible, it's an invitation to know Love himself. Because when we know who He is, we are able to live life with confidence because we know that God Almighty is on my side and even though, I've walked through hardship, even though I walked through trials, even though, but the world will see as a hopeless and desperate situation, God is with me, God is for me, He is on my side, He is fighting my battles, I don't have to be afraid because the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords fights for me.

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And when we abide, we are able to make impact. So again, doing things apart from the Lord, apart from Christ is going to fall, it's going to crumble. It might be here today and you might make great fame for yourself. And you know, earn lots of money and make big name for yourself, but if it is not built on the foundation in Jesus Christ, it is going to fall away and it will have no eternal value. It is only when we're rooted in the Lord, Jesus that we were able to make impact.

We can try to do things in our own strength and we can make try to make our name great, but the more that we spend time with God, the more that we will fall in love with Him, the more that we will desire to make His Name great instead of ours. And whether we will submit our plans to His plans because we know that He's is always better. Even if it doesn't seem like and even if it doesn't feel like it, we know we can trust Him, because we know that He has the better way, because Isaiah 55 Verse 8 and 9 says that, "His Ways are higher than my ways and His thoughts are higher than my thoughts."

So even though I don't understand, I can trust because again, being in His Word, I know his heart, I know that He loves me, I know that He has the best in store for me. I know that what He has might not make sense to me, but it is good because it is from Him then He is good. So, when you are living out of the place of closeness with the Father, your desires begin to change and I become more like His desires. And He fills you with His Spirit and He enables you to walk out this life that He has destined for

you to live and you're not doing out of your own strength, or out of your own capabilities, because you will fall short every single time.

You're doing it out of a place of surrender, out of a place of closeness because you are just seeking God above your own ability, above your own strength. You're not looking to yourself anymore and you're looking to Him. The Source of all things, the Source of your strength. And the more that you abide with God, the more that you would just want to stay there. The more that you just want to be with Him, not asking Him for blessings or asking Him for bright days or asking Him for miracles, because being with Him is the greatest miracle, it is the ultimate blessing, that is the biggest breakthrough. Jesus coming down here to dwell among us, as sinners, we have a perfect Holy God that desires closeness and intimacy with us.

And the funny thing is that, that God desires us more than we desire Him. And so, recently I was praying about something and I am like, "God, like you know I want this so bad." Like, so bad and He's like, you know, the boy that you are longing for this thing is the boy that I long for my bride and that hit me because I was desiring this thing from God, this blessing from God, more than I was desiring God himself and I realized like, "God, I don't know how you love me, I don't deserve it." But it's just like, God again, He created us for intimacy. He is the God of intimacy. He creates us to be in this place of knowing Him and knowing Him deeply, not just knowing about Him, but knowing Him, knowing his Heart, knowing His Character.

And so, one day, I was at this worship service and it was just really great, like we will spend just like, two hours just in worship, just worshipping God, just talking to Him about how amazing He is and how awesome that He is and just you know, you could just feel the presence of God in that place. And so, as everyone is worshipping, you know, we're just in awe of Him. And I was just sitting there, just worshipping, just singing the songs, and just going about it, but like, I started praying and I was just like, "God, thank you. Thank you for being here, just thank you for coming and for dwelling among us and thank you for choosing us to be your kids. Thank you for choosing to be our Father. Thank you just coming and just for being here." I just, over and over again, I was just like, "Thank you God, thank you God."

And you know, when you are going to take fillet and you press an order and then, they bring it up to you, you say, "Thank you." And they say, "My pleasure." So, I was sitting in this worship service and I am like, thanking God over and over again. I am like, "Thank you God, thank you God, thank you God." And He said, "It is My pleasure to be with you." Because God is the God of intimacy and He adores us as his kids. It is His pleasure to be with us, it is His pleasure to come to know us, it is His pleasure that we would know Him. That is why, he sent Jesus to a lost and broken world, the world that we messed up. He saved us from ourselves because He wanted to restore us back to perfect relationship with Him because He is our Father and He loves us.

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And so, recently, I just finished reading the Book of Mark and at the end of it, in Chapter 16, this is after Jesus has been crucified, He's resurrected, He has shown himself to His disciples and at the end in verse 19, it talks about how He, you know, went back to sit at the right hand of God. And I was just reading this, and I'm like, "Man, Jesus like, you must have been so ready to be back in heaven, back in perfection, back at the right hand of God." And I'm like, because you had the time on earth like, but You must have been so ready just be back in heaven with your Father, just there because that is where He came from.

Ad He said, "No." Because even though He's in heaven, He spends all of His time interceding for us on our behalf and He said, "Even more than that, I send my Holy Spirit to dwell within you, so that I will never leave you." And I'm just like, "Jesus, I can't. Like, I don't understand it and I told it about my mom about it, but I can't because His love so good, it is so big, it is so much bigger than I can imagine, how I can think. It's just, He said, "It's not for you to understand, just accept it, just live in it, just abide in Me and I in you and that is it, that is what it is."

And so, I just want to end with you all knowing that, God truly desires to dwell among His people. He truly desires to be intimate with you and if you will make that time and just take that time to be intimate with the Lord, your life will never be the same and things may not change out really, but on the inside, you will know that, you have a God who loves you and who cares for you.

Elisha Bronner: So, thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because brother and sister, you need the Word.

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