

**I love
following
Jesus
because...**



Overcoming fear is the first step in
difficult situations

I LOVE
FOLLOWING
JESUS
BECAUSE....

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JESUS
BECAUSE...

GRACE

- Prevenient
- Justifying
- Sanctifying

“

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith

—and

this is not from yourselves,

it is the gift of God—

not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NIV)

”

I don't deserve it,
but God has been
pursuing me since
that day I was born.

“

As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; **there is no one who seeks God.**

Romans 3:10–11 (NIV)

“

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Psalm 139:1,6–10 (NIV)

Community

“

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

Psalm 139:1,6–10 (NIV)

Community

“

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Psalm 139:1,6–10 (NIV)

Community

“

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:10 (NIV)

- the love of God wooing us
- the will of God drawing us
- the desire of God pursuing us
- the gift of God freeing us
- the activity of God empowering us

I was created to be in relationship with God

- *Prevenient grace?*

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“

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31 (NIV)

“

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Genesis 3:6–9 (NIV)

“

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

Genesis 3:6–9 (NIV)



God wants a real
relationship with me

“

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

John 15:11 (NIV)

“

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come
that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10 (NIV)

“

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.

John 15:12-17 (NIV)

“

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

John 15:12-17 (NIV)

“

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

John 15:12–17 (NIV)

God continues to offer me this relationship

- *Prevenient grace?*
- *I was created to be in relationship with God*

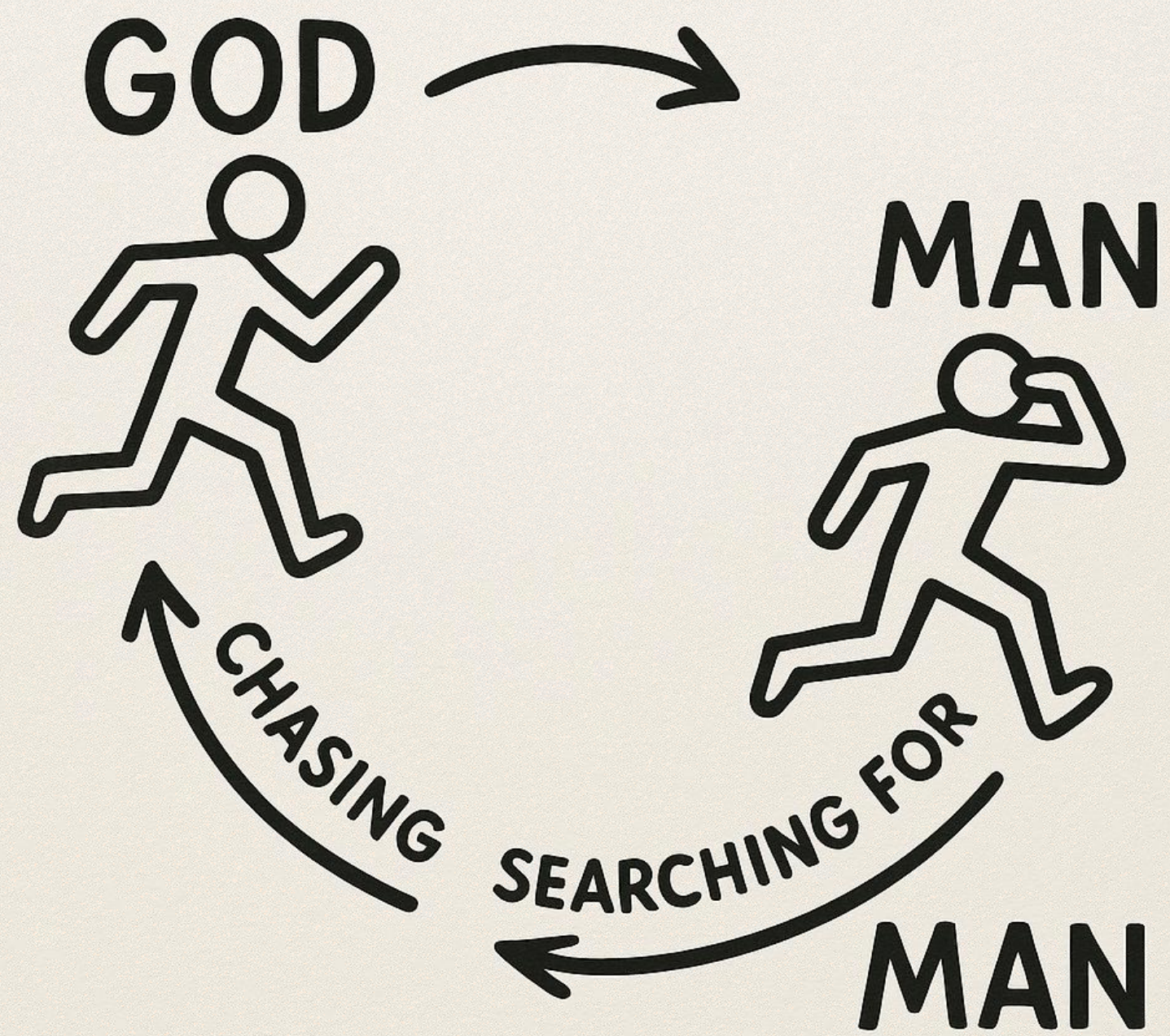
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“

The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Jeremiah 31:3 (NIV)

- **God wants a relationship with Us!**
- **Covenant Love - Genuine**
- **Relationship of Love & Grace**
- **Divine + Seeking + Everlasting Gift**
- **God Seeks Us for Relationship**



How can I experience God's prevenient grace?

- *Prevenient grace?*
- *I was created to be in relationship with God*
- *God continues to offer me this relationship*

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“

But **seek first** his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

“

“Ask and it will be given to you; **seek and you will find**; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; **the one who seeks finds**; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:7–8 (NIV)

“

We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19 (NIV)



“

Will you open your heart
to God and accept the
relationship God offers in
Jesus Christ?

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JESUS
BECAUSE...

No matter what you've done or how often
you've turned your back on God, God is
waiting for you, with arms outstretched,
longing to gather you into His loving
embrace.

- Prevenient grace?
- I was created to be in relationship with God
- God continues to offer me this relationship
- How can I experience God's prevenient grace?

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pursues me