

The Father's Love

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Taking it Home:

1. Let's cement these verses in our hearts by committing them to memory. Start with Zephaniah 3:17 and, if you can, challenge yourself to be able to recite today's entire passage (3:14-20). Pray for each other to have success as you work on your verses this week.
2. Today's sermon is the first in a six-part series in which we'll challenge each other to pursue FCCO's three priorities for 2023 [They're printed at the bottom of the sermon outline]. In prayer, ask God to help you make these your priorities for this year.

Prayer Concerns:

1. Our Father's _____ for us is _____. [15-16]
2. Our Father's love _____ us. [17]
3. Our Father takes _____ in us. [17]
4. Our Father's love _____. [17]
5. Our Father _____ with _____. [17]
6. Our Father's love _____. [20]

PURSUIT	
<i>FCCO's 2023 Priorities</i>	
<i>Personal</i>	Giving Jesus our first love.
<i>Congregational</i>	Glorifying God in our worship.
<i>Missional</i>	Engaging our culture with truth and love.

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started (don't skip these!):

1. How was your house heated when you were between the ages of 7 and 12?
2. At that same time, what room or place in your house was the center of warmth?
3. Who was the center of human warmth?

Digging Deeper:

Read Zephaniah 3:14-20

1. Verse 14 calls us to sing, be glad, and rejoice with all our hearts. What reasons do verses 14-20 give us to sing about?
2. In the sermon, Dan described God's love as fierce. By that, he meant God fights for us, He calls us out when we sin, and He is mighty to save. When have you experienced the fierceness of God's love? Did it draw you closer to God or cause you to fear Him in an unhealthy way?

3. Reread verse 17. What does it mean for God to take "great delight" in us? What is the source of God's delight? Do you believe God truly takes great delight in you?
4. Zephaniah promises God "will quiet you with his love." We're living in a time of great anxiety and restlessness. Read Joshua 1:9, Psalm 46:10, and Philippians 4:6-7. How does God's love "quiet us"?
5. Verse 17 tells us that God rejoices over us with singing. What does this truth tell you about God's amazing love for you?
6. The getting started questions asked how our homes were heated and who provided the source of human love. Now consider this question: When did you first feel the warmth of God's love in your life?