

# **YouthCross**

## **Experience Christian Magazine**



# **God's Perfect Love**

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*celebrating*  
**5**  
**Years**



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Be

Blessed

Always



# Editorial

## GOD'S PERFECT LOVE

A fact that's not denied is that God is love and the love that He gives is perfect.

A perfect love that heals a wounded heart. A perfect love that covers the stain of sin. A perfect love that renews what's inside and expresses it on the outside. A perfect love that makes a worthless sinner like me feel welcomed into His kingdom.

"Jesus, Jesus, when you were on the cross you remembered me". These are words that whispers from our hearts each time we remember who we really are and what we've really done. Sometimes we struggle internally and that internal battles sometimes sneaks out and then there's an outburst of external battles. Inside our spirit man cries out for help to the Holy Spirit and we may want to silence Him because life is just not fair, but He is there to cry out for us to God. (Romans 8:26-27). We need to allow the Holy Spirit to speak for us because sometimes our hearts are just too broken to say that prayer. We need to let go!

We have received a love that is unconditional. No matter who you are, Jesus still loves you. But He cannot accept you into His house if He doesn't know you and you don't know Him. We constantly liken a relationship between a man and his wife to the way Christ loves the church. We look for physical evidence of the love of God and the best example is the way a man is meant to love his wife and the way the wife reciprocates that love back to him. We are meant to love God in the same way He loves us. This love is taught to us through His Word as we see throughout the generations from Adam and Eve in the garden to the Second Coming! In the Old Testament, we see how God is working through His Spirit. In the New Testament, we see God in the flesh working through His Spirit. God came to earth to physically show us His perfect love. What more evidence do we need? What more convincing do we need? We know the famous story about Saul's

conversion on the road to Damascus (Acts 9). What changed for him on that road? Why did that encounter with Jesus change him? What did he feel after going blind for three days to come out of that blindness and go about teaching and preaching the gospel that he himself was strongly against? What great love could have changed a heart like his? A perfect love. God's perfect love is what made a man like Saul be willing to give up his life and give his all to proclaim that Jesus is Lord.

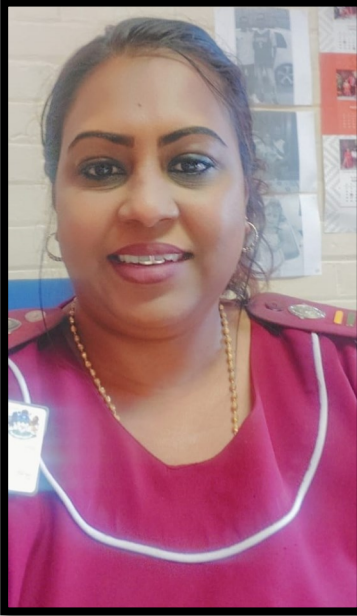
That perfect love is for everyone, but not everyone wants it. Those who want it, receives it, but those who don't will constantly look to fill that void. We were created in God's image. He put His Spirit in us because we are meant to be connected to Him and that string of connection is love. Brothers and sisters, 1 Corinthians 13 describes this love beautifully. **1 John 4.19, "we love because He first loved us"**. God first loved us when He breathed His breath into us – what is intimacy if not that? How can love be demonstrated in its purest form if not through total surrender? Have you surrendered your all to Jesus? Have you been working on your relationship with Jesus? Do you know your groom, dear bride? Are you ready to feast with Him? Have you accepted His perfect love and are you giving Him back that same love?

Jesus is there with you. Talk to Him if you have not yet. If you have been talking to Him, just reflect on whether your love for God is as perfect as His love for you. You know how you feel. Make that surrender and commitment if that's what's in your heart, and if it's not, seek God out more, find Him and talk to Him. Trust me, you will find what you are looking for.

**Britney Jenine**  
**Editor-In-Chief**

# The Perfect Love of God

BY LORRAINE PILLAY



The love of God is greater than anything we can imagine. He does more for us than just love us. He is love itself. It is only through His love that we are truly able to love others. Because God loves us, we have nothing to fear. As the creator of the universe, He is sovereign over everything.

**“Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent His only son into the world so that we might have life through Him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us.”**

**“God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him. In this is love brought to perfection among us, that we have confidence on the day of judgement because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment, and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love. We love because He first loved us”. – 1 John 4:8-12, 16-19.**

His love is not gained by anything we do in our own merit. The bible states that God loved us while we were still sinners. His love abounds from His infinite goodness and mercy. God’s love is steadfast and unchanging. Though we may grow distant from Him, He continues to love us. Nothing can separate us from God’s love, and in His love, we have the assurance of eternal life, and strength as we approach the trials of this world.

**“What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but handed Him over for us all, how will He not also give us everything else along with Him? What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelming through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor heights, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Roman 8:31-32, 35, 37-39.**

The crucifixion is viewed as a profound act of love, where God, through Jesus, willingly endured immense suffering and death to redeem humanity from sin. The crucifixion is a testament to God’s unconditional love, as He sent his Son to die for people even when they were still sinners. This is a love that is deeply personal, a love that shows His commitment and faithfulness to us. This committed love, this affection for us, is displayed for us through the action of sacrifice.

As we look at the cross, and remember God’s unconditional love, let us reflect on our hearts and change the way we love others, perceive others, and show the true nature of God through us so that we can make a difference in the world. As we set our eyes upon the cross, there we see the Lamb of God offering His precious blood so that our sins might be forgiven and our relationship with God restored.

**“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” - John 15:13.**

**“He gave His life, what more could He give,..O how He loves me.”**

I hope this article brings a blessing to you as you read it.

God bless



# God's Love is Perfect

BY PASTOR ADRIEL REDDY

God's Love - gracious, It's never ending, its unconditional.

The love that God has for you is just something else. Imagine God placed the stars in the sky and yet He calls you beautiful. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, how did He create the earth - He just spoke the Word, but God didn't do that to us because He wanted us to be like Him, so we were created in the image of God. I mean when God created us He didn't just speak the Word, He took time to create us in His image and if you want to make something and if you take your time it doesn't mean that you are slow - you just want it to be perfect because you love what you doing.



John 3:16 - is a famous scripture which shows God's love that He gave His only son to die for you and I and how many people reading this will give up their children or loved ones so that others can get saved? It won't be a hard choice because the answer will be no, but God gave His son so that we could be saved, and we could be called sons and daughters of the Most High God.

God's Love is overwhelming, He wouldn't want you to get hurt or be in bondage or kept in captivity. Look at what He did for the Israelites and how He sent a servant (Moses) to lead His people out of slavery.

Never think you are not good enough or that your life is meaningless. God wouldn't have put you on this earth if He didn't have a purpose for you. He wouldn't have died on the cross for you if He thought you are nothing because you are a somebody in Christ and don't let someone tell you that you nothing because with God you are a somebody. It doesn't matter what you've done in the past Jesus went to the cross to pay for our sins, so that you and I could be set free.



# MY GOD'S PROMISE AND LOVE SO FLAWLESS!

BY HAFIZA MOHAMED



If God is for me who can be against me, which is why I will always hold onto Romans 8:31 because I have seen how God has outdone His duty of protecting me to the point where my enemies had nowhere to run.

I have seen Him get me out of places where I believed there was no escape point, still He provided me with one when people said there was none.

For I trust in the Word of God mentioned in Isaiah 54:17 that no weapon that is formed against me shall prosper.

Stop heeding the enemy's lies. Nobody remains a threat just as long as God is your protector.

Erase all kinds of false info received from every gossip because a child of God was called to be more than just a conqueror.

I find comfort in knowing that He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will certainly rest in the shadow of the Almighty which is why I am glad when I recite Psalm 91 because God's promise here is most definitely His children's safety.

In all situations we must remember the mighty promises of God but most importantly the one mentioned in Philippians 4:13 that we can do all things through Christ who gives us the strength.

It is the broken that God can still mend.

To the fallen, it is a helping hand He will lend.

In your every time of need, there is only one God I can recommend who is the one and only Saviour who was sent for us to depend on to be thee most faithful friend!!!



# The Crucifixion: A Sacrifice of Love

BY LORRAINE PILLAY (THL)

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ are central events in Christian theology, and they carry profound heart-warming and transformative messages that have impacted countless lives throughout history. I have seen great insight into how these events have brought hope, healing, and meaning to people and personally into my life.

## ### 1. **\*\*The Crucifixion: A Sacrifice of Love\*\***

- The crucifixion of Jesus is seen as the ultimate act of love and sacrifice. According to Christian belief, Jesus willingly gave His life to bear the sins of humanity, offering forgiveness and reconciliation between God and humanity. This act demonstrates the depth of God's love, as expressed in **John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."**

- For many, this sacrifice is a source of comfort, knowing that they are loved unconditionally and that their mistakes and failures can be forgiven. It reminds people that they are valued beyond measure.

## ### 2. **\*\*The Resurrection: Victory Over Death\*\***

- The resurrection of Jesus three days after His crucifixion is celebrated as a triumph over sin and death. It signifies hope, new beginnings, and the promise of eternal life.

The empty tomb is a powerful symbol of God's power to bring life out of death and light out of darkness.

- This message has brought solace to those grieving the loss of loved ones, as it assures believers of the hope of reunion in eternity. It also inspires people to face their own struggles with courage, knowing that even the darkest moments can lead to renewal and victory.

## ### 3. **\*\*Transformation of Lives\*\***

- The story of the crucifixion and resurrection has transformed countless lives. For example, the disciples, who were initially fearful and disheartened after Jesus' death, became bold and courageous witnesses after encountering the risen Christ. Their transformed lives laid the foundation for the spread of Christianity.

- Throughout history, individuals have found strength and purpose in this message. It has inspired acts of compassion, forgiveness, and selflessness, as people strive to reflect the love and grace they have received.

In my life I've seen the power of Jesus move in many ways, when I went through grief of many close family members in my life, I held onto Jesus and His promises. In Deuteronomy 31:6-8 Jesus said He will never leave us nor forsake us.



# The Crucifixion: A Sacrifice of Love

CONTINUED ...

## ### 4. \*\*A Message of Hope and Redemption\*\*

- The crucifixion and resurrection offer a message of hope to those who feel broken or lost. It reminds people that no situation is beyond redemption and that God can bring beauty out of pain. This has comforted those facing addiction, illness, or despair, giving them a sense of purpose and the strength to persevere.

- The resurrection, in particular, is a reminder that life's challenges are not the end of the story. It encourages people to trust in God's plan, even when circumstances seem hopeless.

## ### 5. \*\*Community and Unity\*\*

- The events of the crucifixion and resurrection have brought people together across cultures and generations. The shared belief in Jesus' sacrifice and victory has created a sense of community and belonging for millions of believers worldwide. It has inspired acts of service, charity, and love, as people seek to live out the teachings of Jesus.

## ### 6. \*\*Personal Encounters with Grace\*\*

- Many people have shared personal stories of how the message of the crucifixion and resurrection has changed their lives. For some, it has been a turning point in overcoming guilt, shame, or fear. For others,



it has been a source of joy and peace, knowing they are loved and accepted by God.

In summary, the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are not just historical events but living truths that continue to inspire and transform lives. They offer a message of love, hope, and renewal, reminding people that they are never alone and that even the greatest suffering can lead to redemption and joy. This heart-warming narrative has brought light to countless lives, offering a sense of purpose and eternal hope.

My Hope and Prayers to everyone that is reading this today, just know Jesus is your Anchor, Just draw close to HIM and learn to forgive and let go of anything that is holding you back from receiving that abundant blessings God has in store for you.

Embrace the Ending, it's a chance for Growth.



# SAILING THE SHIP OF FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD'S SONSHIP

BY HAFIZA MOHAMED

**“Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character”** and this is evident in **1 Corinthians 15:33**, hence it is best to choose your friendships more wisely and much more carefully.

In Proverbs 18:24 we can understand that one who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. The kind that will show concern like a faithful mother, the kind that will motivate you like no other.

Sincere encouragement is required and we learn this from 1 Thessalonians 5:11 that we need to encourage one another and build each other up for this is what the Word says. It is by obeying God and being of help to someone other than one's own self that we can draw closer to God and His faithful ways.

A loyal supporter is one who advises and one who states the truth which is clearly explained in Proverbs 27:9 which states that perfume and incense bring joy to the heart and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.

The cost of following the unwise is mentioned in **Proverbs 13:20** and it says **“walk with the wise and become wise for a companion of fools suffers harm”** hence remain alarmed and do not fall for the crooked ways of the charmed.

In James 4:4 we can understand that having a close friendship with the worldly ways that some may offer means that we distance ourselves from God and

what He says because the Word states in **James 4:4** **“Don't you know that friendship with the world is enmity against God. Therefore anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.”** So choose the One who is true and who is the Lord.

Most certainly we have a friend in this God who gave up life itself to save us from torture and the proof is found in **John 15:13** which states **“Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends”**

Our God is full of goodness and faithfulness but still we have to play our role to accept discipline and correction by repenting of our sins, making amends and surrounding ourselves with the right kind of friends.







# God's Perfect Love as seen in Scriptures

BY PADMINI GOVENDER (TOOTSIE)

## Psalm 31:7

"I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love."

## Psalm 36:5-7

"Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God, your judgement are like the great deep, man and beast you save, O Lord. How precious is your steadfast love, O God. The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings."

## Psalm 107:1

"Oh give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his steadfast love endures forever."

## Proverbs 3:22

"My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

## Lamentations 3:22

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning great is thy faithfulness."

## 1 Chronicles 16:34

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

## Jeremiah 31:3

"The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love, therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."



# God's Perfect Love as seen in Scriptures

CONTINUED ...

## John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

## John 13:34

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another.”

## Romans 5:5 and 8

“And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.”

## Romans 8:31-39

“What then shall we say to these things?. If God is for us, who can be against us? 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? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, Who was raised - who is at the right the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, For the your sake we are being killed all the day long, we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers. nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

## Ephesians 3:17

“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith that you, being rooted and grounded in in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breath and length and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the faithfulness of God.”



# God's Perfect Love as seen in Scriptures

CONTINUED ...

## Colossians 3:14

“And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

## Ephesians 2:4-5

“But God being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved.”

## 1 Corinthians 13: 1 -13

“If you speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind, love does not envy or boast it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way, it is not irritable or resentful, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believe all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away, as for tongues, they will cease, as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three but the greatest of these is love.”

## 1 John 3:16

“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for others.”



# God's Perfect Love as seen in Scriptures

CONTINUED ...

## 1 John 4:7-21

“Beloved let us love one another for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved if God so loved us we ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God, if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfect in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his son to be the Saviour of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this love perfected with us so that we may have confidence for the day of judgement, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says "I Love God" and hates his brother, he is a liar, for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him, whoever loves God must also love his brother.”

# SPECIAL REVEAL

Praise God!!! All glory to Jesus!!!

YouthCross Experience Magazine is officially 5 years its remarkable just how God has been weaving together each issue that has being published. He speaks and He works and I am just so humbled and grateful to be used as a vessel to lead this vision. It has always been in my heart to share the gospel as we as believers in Christ are instructed to carry out the Great Commission. It doesn't matter how you share it, the aim is to share the good news every way possible, and to every person who wrote/writes in this magazine and to every person who reads it and shares it, you are playing a part in carrying out the Great Commission. You don't necessarily need a pulpit, you just need to have your heart right with God, a deep hunger for Him and His Word and a cry in your heart to reach the lost and tell them about Christ. You need to have that compassion in your heart to uplift one another, to teach each other because we grow in faith together.

In the past five years, God has really moved and showed me what He can do through this magazine. I prayed and asked God to lead me to what's next and after months of having it on my mind... God said it is time. He once again gave me the name and the content outline.

I am extremely excited to announce that the YouthCross Experience Magazine is going to launch its own Christian Podcast in the coming months. The name of the podcast is "Experienced to Witness".

This is going to be a new approach to sharing our vision and mission.

Keep an eye out for our official launch and remember us in prayer that God may do what He needs to.

Love and appreciate all of you!

#sharingthegoodnewseverywaypossible



BRITNEY JENINE



# Experienced To Witness

Turning the  
Written  
into  
Spoken

CHRISTIAN PODCAST

**COMING SOON!**



Expanding the Vision  
of the YouthCross  
Experience Magazine  
to Teach, Uplift, Motivate  
and Encourage!

# Youth Cross Experience

Thank you to our Team who have contributed  
towards making  
**YOUTHCROSS EXPERIENCE** a **SUCCESS**.

## Our team:

- Britney Jenine
- Lorraine Pillay
- Pastor Adriel Reddy
- Hafiza Mohamed
- Lorraine Pillay (THL)
- Padmini Govender (Tootsie)

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hesitate to write to us.

We will inform you about  
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to impact someone's life!

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**Next Issue:**  
May/June/July 2025

*Britney  
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Editor-In-Chief



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**Redeemed by Christ**  
**Sealed with the Holy Spirit**

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