

What 6 Things Happen When You Become a Christian? This 1st page is from Keys to Discipleship #4: New Covenant Ministry.

The new covenant is built upon a direct, intimate relationship with God where sins are not an issue nor is the Law nor is our flesh. In terms of what happens when you become a Christian, let's memorize six elements using an acrostic: FHIDLS. These are based on **Lk. 22:20, 1 Cor. 11:25, Ezek. 36:25-27, Jer. 31:31-34, Heb. 7:18-22, 8:6-12, 2 Cor. 3:4-18** (read):

FORGIVENESS of sins - I will be merciful to your iniquities and remember your sins no more! Forgiveness = to send away from, release. The price has been paid, Jesus' blood has been shed, our sins have been forgiven. Yes, it is undeserved, but it is done and complete. It's tragic that some Christians still think and live as if God still holds their sins against them. We are to accept ourselves as forgiven *because this is what God Himself states!* Why are sinners lost today? Not because of their natures or their sins, but because they haven't by faith turned to the forgiving Jesus as Lord. (**Heb. 8:12, Jer. 31:34, Ps. 32:1-5, Lk. 24:47, Acts 2:38, 5:31, 13:38-39, 26:18, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14, Heb. 10:17-18, 1 Jn. 1:9, 2:12**)

HEART made new - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. A heart/spirit/nature transplant! A new identity. God dealt with who we were IN Adam and made us His new creation IN Christ. We are now saints (holy ones) by nature. We no longer are who we used to be—sinners by nature. (**Ezek. 36:26, Ezek. 11:19, Rom. 5:11-6:23, 2 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 2:10**)

INTIMATE relationship with God - I will be your personal, intimate God, and you shall be My people. This has always been God's plan, that we know Him as Father and He knows us as part of His family. As our Father, He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He chose us. He predestined us to adoption as sons. We have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" We are His children by birth and heirs by adoption. (**Heb. 8:10, Jer. 31:33, Lk. 11:2, Jn. 17:3, 20:17, Rom. 8:15-17, Eph. 1:3-5**)

DIRECT access to God - You won't need a priest or teacher to get to know Me. You will have direct access to Me and knowledge of Me. You won't need to go to a temple or offer a certain sacrifice. Jesus is the permanent, perfect high priest. We go directly to and through Him. The indwelling Holy Spirit will teach us. (**Heb. 8:11, Jer. 31:34, Mk. 15:38, Rom. 8:26-28, 1 Jn. 2:27**)

LAWS of God - My laws will be on your mind and heart, not on tablets of stone. He gives His own children hearts that long to obey. We delight to do His will. We don't follow His laws because we 'have to' but because we 'want to'! It's not external motivation but internal. We're not under the written Law anymore. We've died to the Law so we can serve in newness of the Spirit. (**Heb. 8:10, Jer. 31:33, Rom. 7:4-6, 8:2-4, Gal. 5:18, 2 Cor. 3:2-8**)

SPIRIT of God - I will place My Spirit within you. The Holy Spirit taking up permanent residence in our physical bodies so He can live the life of Jesus through us. (**Ezek. 36:27, Jn. 14:16-17, Rom. 8:11, 1 Cor. 6:19, Eph. 3:16**)

Learn these foundational truths. Your practice of them will change your life.

In **Rom. 5-8**, the apostle Paul says, "You have been declared and made right/just with God by faith in the Person and work of the Lord Jesus. Because of my clear reasonings in **Rom. 1-4**, I'm assuming you decided by faith in Jesus to call upon His Name. What a great decision! You're now right/just with God! What great news! Yet there's 'so much more' to God's Good News!"

John R.W. Stott says these 4 chapters (**Rom. 5-8**) "are without doubt among the greatest and most glorious chapters of the whole NT....These 4 chapters depict the great privileges of justified believers, of men made new, the rich inheritance (both now and in eternity) which is ours if we are Christ's." So, in light of Stott's statement, what are even more results (including FHDILS) of being justified by faith in Jesus? We learn to exult in our future, in our present pressures, and finally in God Himself. God out of His love is even using pressures to grow us! **Read :1-11, 5:1-2** 3 results of 'God's Justice Satisfied'.

Read :1-2. CHRISTIANS HAVE PERMANENT PEACE WITH GOD, CONTINUAL ACCESS TO HIM, AND A DEFINITE FUTURE WITH HIM! **:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Since we're justified by faith in Jesus** (justification is once-for-all settled). By His death on the cross, Jesus satisfied all the demands of the case against every human—suppressing God's truth, not honoring Him as God or thanking Him, showing up in idolatry, dishonored bodies, degraded passions, and depraved minds. And, we can exult, rejoice, in who God is and what He's done/doing/will do! 3 results of having been (past, once-for-all) justified by faith in Jesus.

(1st) PAST—WE HAVE PERMANENT PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS! Everything is right between God and us. **Eph. 2:14** even describes Jesus as our peace. Peace includes wholeness, harmony, contentment. It's not a feeling but a fact. If you are doubting that peace with God, the way back is not by working on your feelings but by reviewing your justification.

:2a (2nd) PRESENT—JESUS HAS BROUGHT US INTO THIS PLACE OF UNDESERVED ACCESS WHERE WE NOW STAND. ...**through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand.** We stand there, safe, confident, permanent, secure in God's presence and grace! Continual access to God and His resources. It's like Jesus took each of us by the hand, and said, "Father, let Me introduce You to (your name). He/She has decided to follow Me as Lord and Savior and is now a member of the family, an heir, a son or daughter with full rights and privileges." **Heb. 4:16** says to "draw near with confidence to the throne of grace." Also see **Heb. 10:19,22!**

:2b (3rd) FUTURE—WE ARE CONFIDENTLY, JOYFULLY CERTAIN OF SEEING AND SHARING GOD'S GLORY! ...**and we exult in hope of the glory of God.** Glory is the essence of who God is. It is what we had fallen short of in **3:23**. Hope is something that is certain, but not yet realized. We exult (lit. to boast) or super-rejoice in a hope that is fixed on Him. **Read Phil. 3:21.** We have a certain future (see **8:17b,30**). We'll in full measure share God's glory! Exult!!

God's peace, grace, glory—all ours because of the Lord Jesus. "Father, to enter Your family room, Your throne room, to be in Your presence forever—these certainties are incredible! Jesus, thank You for Your work on the Cross."

Now, about those pressures you're currently experiencing? KNOW THERE'S A MATURING PROCESS GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE ORIGINATING FROM GOD'S LOVE! Paul explains how God is using those pressures in :3-5. **:3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; :4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; :5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.** We should exult in even the hardest things of life. What!? Why?

:3b-10 explain. How does God use 'pressing' situations in our lives? 'KNOWING' is the key! "The secret of exulting is having the right focus." Remember who our God is: **The one who gives life to the dead, and calls into being that which does not exist (4:17).** This God is committed to our growth. Upon that truth, we'll be convinced that He knows what He's doing and where He's taking us, "through a carefully monitored training program directed by the Lord Himself." What is that process? From pressure to perseverance to proven character to certainty. Perseverance = to abide under, a steady, stable, not-a-reactor, patient, reliable, type of person. This endurance enables you to keep going in a difficult job/class/marriage/government/neighborhood. A 'pressing' is actually God's starting point. "I may not know His specific purpose, but I know it's for my good and His glory. This is a Father who is putting me through some development that I desperately need to grow."

:4 And, what does perseverance bring about? Strength of or proven character! Proven character means to be tested (used of metal) and come out approved. You end up meeting God's specs, reliable, experienced, a veteran! God is producing the outward image of Jesus in you! Pressures are His starting point. And, what does proven character bring about? Hope, certainty. We become certain that God is not going to give up the job uncompleted. God is making us men and women who are absolutely confident in Him. Our spirits were made alive by Jesus when we were justified. Now our Father wants that new life to be revealed: in our thoughts, words, actions, and choices.

:5 And, that hope never disappoints/makes ashamed. We can endure setbacks without panic. Nothing is wasted. God is using 'everything' to conform us to the image of Jesus. What should be our focus during this process? God & His love! His unconditional love is behind His development program in our lives. 2 great truths are introduced for the first time in Paul's letter: the great love of God and indwelling of His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit living within us is our ever-present guarantee of future victory in the midst of pressures. Another way God's love is proven is by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

When the Holy Spirit entered our lives at conversion (He was given to us, a past event), He poured out and continues to pour out God's love within our hearts. The once-given Holy Spirit causes a permanent flood of divine love. He is there to remind us that God loves us and nothing is wasted in our lives.

So, how do you respond to pressures? "Panic? Why me? I don't deserve this!" If we rebel, it hurts ourselves and others. If we merely try to endure, there is no growth. Instead, we're to exult, because we see God working out His growth plan. According to **:2-3** we are to exult in the end—glory, and

we're also to exult in the means to the end—pressures.

How you react depends on your focus. The leaders of Rome couldn't see Michelangelo's mind as he worked on the marble sculptures. The Romans dragged in huge chunks of marble, stood them upright, and Michelangelo went to work. He chipped away so much of the marble that they felt they weren't getting their money's worth. "Look, look, at all this waste!" Michelangelo responded, "As the chips fall, the image emerges." What are we focusing on, the falling chips or the image God is creating? We tend to look at the chips, what we'd call loss or failure or waste. God calls it valuable, even necessary. What is your focus? What's being revealed in you? "Chip away, God!"

Times of testing are defining moments because they are being used by God to develop stable, steady, experienced, reliable, certain veterans. Out of His love, He's using even the hardest things about life for our growth! "Father, as we understand this is coming from Your loving hand, You, by Your indwelling Holy Spirit, will flood our hearts with Your love, to steady us and keep us exulting." Remember the justifying, life-giving, creative, gracious, loving God we have. When you 'see' your glorious future (**:2**), when you 'see' even pressures as being part of God's unique growth process (**:3-10**), and when you 'see' who your reconciling God is (**:11**), you can exult! And you'll be the most contagious person on earth!

"Our Father, when we see how You even use pressures to outwardly conform us to the image of Your Son, what can we do except thank You, again! You're making us individuals who will trust You in every circumstance, who will trust You with ourselves, who will trust You with others. We want to get to know YOU, and Your development program is designed for that purpose. We shouldn't fear pressures but see Your use of them. If it was best that they were removed, You are certainly powerful enough to remove them. So, if they continue, that means we still have lessons to learn, and You're going to make sure we learn them! Thank You for the wisdom, power, and love that stand behind every pressure."

Reflecting on Rom. 5:1-5: Recognizing that we have been justified by faith in Jesus, what is your reaction to the certainties listed in **:1-2**? Which one stands out to you the most? Why? In **:3-5**, how is our Lord using pressures in your life? Where are you in the maturing process described in **:3-5**? From **:1-5**, what are 2 major lessons you learned? 2 applications you will make to your life? Facts you will emphasize as you share with another?

As we look at **5:1-10**, we see the results that take place when one is justified by faith in Jesus! Peace with God, continual access to God and His grace, a future with God and sharing His glory. In the meantime, we're learning God is using even the pressures of life to develop and mature us. He's using 'pressings' to make us patient, steady, not reactor-to-circumstances persons. This leads to proven character, reliable, experienced veterans. And this process leads to absolute confidence in God. This confidence doesn't disappoint us, why? Because inherent in God's development program in our

lives is His love. His love is proven by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our bodies, flooding our hearts with the Father's love. Sometimes we're overwhelmed with a sense of God's love, *knowing* the Holy Spirit is at work. Yet this can't be measured; you can't 'prove' it. And there are times when we don't 'feel' loved. So in **5:6-10**, we see the objective ground for knowing God loves us and is doing only what is best.

Read :6-10. OUT OF HIS LOVE, THE FATHER SENT JESUS TO DIE FOR AND SAVE US. While we were helpless, ungodly, sinners, enemies—that was each person, us!—Jesus died in our place and for our sins!! **:6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.** We were helpless, powerless, weak, without strength. We were ungodly (1:18), a lack of reverence for God, wanting nothing to do with Him or His truth, suppressing His truth. “Ungodly: We see in the cross how unlike God we are.” A helpless person can't meet God's standards. An ungodly person doesn't want to meet God's standards. It was at that very time Christ died for us. These are the people Jesus died for, at just the right time. AND, they included you and me!

:7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. Very rarely will anyone die for a just person (one who goes by the books). Someone might dare to die for a good man; that has occasionally happened. Paul's point is, rarely will anyone give up his life for another, even if the other is good. But, Jesus died for the helpless and the ungodly, who were neither righteous nor good! Recall **1:18-3:20!**

:8 But God demonstrates [present tense, ongoing] His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. There's a place where every Christian knows that God loves Him. It's where God demonstrated the love of Himself to us, in that sinners being us, Christ on behalf of us died. The apostle describes God's kind of love. This is the love that is using all our pressures, our experiences, life itself. Helpless, ungodly, now sinners. Sin means to miss God's mark. A sinner is who we were by nature, by our practices and thoughts, and by our representative (Adam). We couldn't meet God's standards. We didn't want to meet His standards. We were missing His standards (even if we didn't know it). God has always loved us; He demonstrated it by giving His Son to die for us as sinners and for our sins. That's some kind of love. God's love proven at the cross is an objective, historical fact that we never dare forget. It's where we're to go when we don't 'feel' loved, we question what's going on, we wonder "Where's God?", we don't understand the pressures.

So, if He loved us then, while we were in that helpless, ungodly, sinful condition, **:9 MUCH MORE then, having now been justified by His blood** (and we have been, by faith in Jesus), **we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.** Remember the wrath of God we saw in **1:18-3:20**—revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of men? Remember the future day of the wrath of God described in **2:1-16?** God's wrath represents all His hatred and resistance to the evil of mankind. So another two results of being justified by faith in Jesus are, first, we won't experience God's wrath, either here during our lifetime or in the future. If God loved us enough to

provide justification for us, much more, He'll also save His own from His wrath (see **1 Th. 1:10, 5:9**). Incredible, again demonstrating His love for us! The difference in your viewpoint is to see your pressures as evidence of God's love and not His wrath.

And here's the second 'MUCH MORE.' **:10 For if while we were enemies of God, we were reconciled to God through the death of Jesus, MUCH MORE, having been reconciled to God, we shall be saved by His life.** Before coming to know Jesus as Lord, we were His enemies. We were against Him, actively or passively opposing Him, deliberately suppressing His truth, trying to wreck everything He was trying to do to reach us. Yet out of His love, Christ died for us—helpless, ungodly, sinners, enemies. That's who we were, but we're not those anymore. Through Jesus we were reconciled to God. Reconcile = to change, exchange; to go from hostility to harmony, from enemies to friends, from ungodly to holy, from sinners to saints. God accomplished this through the death of Jesus, and, since that's true, then MUCH MORE, (2), we shall be saved (daily and in the future) **through and by Jesus' life!** *This is a key to the rest of Romans!* We are saved—past, present, future—through Him living for us, in us, and through us! Jesus' life, in and through ours. Out of His love, that's God's plan. God's love is far beyond our comprehension. This is the kind of love that underlies His every action. This is what is behind what you're going through now. Why? To conform you and me to the image of His Son Jesus.

Never forget—God loves you; the Cross and the indwelling Holy Spirit prove it! His love makes it possible to be right with Him, saves us from His wrath, saves us by His life, even uses our pressures so we can exult in them!

If God loved us when helpless, ungodly, sinners, and enemies, proving His love by Jesus' death on the Cross, certainly He will not and cannot do anything but that which is good for us now that we're His children and He's our Father.

Some wrote, “Grace is free to the receiver & costly to the giver. God stooping to become a man. And then stooping to suffer the punishment we deserve.”

“Our Father, Your love for us and Your Son's life in and through ours. What a plan! Thank You that this kind of love and life underlies Your every action. You can be fully trusted. You are the answer to our every question. May we appreciate Your loving arms wrapped around us. As we take our pressures and begin to look at them from the perspective of Your love and growth process, our pressures start to make sense. And Jesus, thank You for justifying us by Your blood, saving us from the Father's wrath, reconciling us to the Father, and continually saving us by Your life.” And we all say, “_____!”

Reflecting on Romans 5:6-10: How does understanding God's love for you before you became a Christian help you in understanding what you're going through now? From these verses, how did God both reveal and demonstrate His love for each person? How does such love show up in and through you? How does this cause you to look at all other human beings? What are two lessons that impacted you? What are two applications you'll make to your thinking, choices, actions, and words? If emailing or writing a letter to someone, what are the facts from this passage you will emphasize?

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we're also to exult in the means to the end—pressures.

How you react depends on your focus. The leaders of Rome couldn't see Michelangelo's mind as he worked on the marble sculptures. The Romans dragged in huge chunks of marble, stood them upright, and Michelangelo went to work. He chipped away so much of the marble that they felt they weren't getting their money's worth. "Look, look, at all this waste!" Michelangelo responded, "As the chips fall, the image emerges." What are we focusing on, the falling chips or the image God is creating? We tend to look at the chips, what we'd call loss or failure or waste. God calls it valuable, even necessary. What is your focus? What's being revealed in you? "Chip away, God!"

Times of testing are defining moments because they are being used by God to develop stable, steady, experienced, reliable, certain veterans. Out of His love, He's using even the hardest things about life for our growth! "Father, as we understand this is coming from Your loving hand, You, by Your indwelling Holy Spirit, will flood our hearts with Your love, to steady us and keep us exulting." Remember the justifying, life-giving, creative, gracious, loving God we have. When you 'see' your glorious future (:2), when you 'see' even pressures as being part of God's unique growth process (:3-10), and when you 'see' who your reconciling God is (:11), you can exult! And you'll be the most contagious person on earth!

"Our Father, when we see how You even use pressures to outwardly conform us to the image of Your Son, what can we do except thank You, again! You're making us individuals who will trust You in every circumstance, who will trust You with ourselves, who will trust You with others. We want to get to know YOU, and Your development program is designed for that purpose. We shouldn't fear pressures but see Your use of them. If it was best that they were removed, You are certainly powerful enough to remove them. So, if they continue, that means we still have lessons to learn, and You're going to make sure we learn them! Thank You for the wisdom, power, and love that stand behind every pressure."

Reflecting on Rom. 5:1-5: Recognizing that we have been justified by faith in Jesus, what is your reaction to the certainties listed in :1-2? Which one stands out to you the most? Why? In :3-5, how is our Lord using pressures in your life? Where are you in the maturing process described in :3-5? From :1-5, what are 2 major lessons you learned? 2 applications you will make to your life? Facts you will emphasize as you share with another?

As we look at 5:1-10, we see the results that take place when one is justified by faith in Jesus! Peace with God, continual access to God and His grace, a future with God and sharing His glory. In the meantime, we're learning God is using even the pressures of life to develop and mature us. He's using 'pressings' to make us patient, steady, not reactor-to-circumstances persons. This leads to proven character, reliable, experienced veterans. And this process leads to absolute confidence in God. This confidence doesn't disappoint us, why? Because inherent in God's development program in our

lives is His love. His love is proven by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our bodies, flooding our hearts with the Father's love. Sometimes we're overwhelmed with a sense of God's love, *knowing* the Holy Spirit is at work. Yet this can't be measured; you can't 'prove' it. And there are times when we don't 'feel' loved. So in **5:6-10**, we see the objective ground for knowing God loves us and is doing only what is best.

Read :6-10. OUT OF HIS LOVE, THE FATHER SENT JESUS TO DIE FOR AND SAVE US. While we were helpless, ungodly, sinners, enemies—that was each person, us!—Jesus died in our place and for our sins!! **:6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.** We were helpless, powerless, weak, without strength. We were ungodly (1:18), a lack of reverence for God, wanting nothing to do with Him or His truth, suppressing His truth. "Ungodly: We see in the cross how unlike God we are." A helpless person can't meet God's standards. An ungodly person doesn't want to meet God's standards. It was at that very time Christ died for us. These are the people Jesus died for, at just the right time. AND, they included you and me!

:7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. Very rarely will anyone die for a just person (one who goes by the books). Someone might dare to die for a good man; that has occasionally happened. Paul's point is, rarely will anyone give up his life for another, even if the other is good. But, Jesus died for the helpless and the ungodly, who were neither righteous nor good! Recall **1:18-3:20!**

:8 But God demonstrates [present tense, ongoing] His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. There's a place where every Christian knows that God loves Him. It's where God demonstrated the love of Himself to us, in that sinners being us, Christ on behalf of us died. The apostle describes God's kind of love. This is the love that is using all our pressures, our experiences, life itself. Helpless, ungodly, now sinners. Sin means to miss God's mark. A sinner is who we were by nature, by our practices and thoughts, and by our representative (Adam). We couldn't meet God's standards. We didn't want to meet His standards. We were missing His standards (even if we didn't know it). God has always loved us; He demonstrated it by giving His Son to die for us as sinners and for our sins. That's some kind of love. God's love proven at the cross is an objective, historical fact that we never dare forget. It's where we're to go when we don't 'feel' loved, we question what's going on, we wonder "Where's God?", we don't understand the pressures.

So, if He loved us then, while we were in that helpless, ungodly, sinful condition, **:9 MUCH MORE then, having now been justified by His blood** (and we have been, by faith in Jesus), **we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.** Remember the wrath of God we saw in **1:18-3:20**—revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of men? Remember the future day of the wrath of God described in **2:1-16?** God's wrath represents all His hatred and resistance to the evil of mankind. So another two results of being justified by faith in Jesus are, first, we won't experience God's wrath, either here during our lifetime or in the future. If God loved us enough to

provide justification for us, much more, He'll also save His own from His wrath (see **1 Th. 1:10, 5:9**). Incredible, again demonstrating His love for us! The difference in your viewpoint is to see your pressures as evidence of God's love and not His wrath.

And here's the second 'MUCH MORE.' **:10 For if while we were enemies of God, we were reconciled to God through the death of Jesus, MUCH MORE, having been reconciled to God, we shall be saved by His life.** Before coming to know Jesus as Lord, we were His enemies. We were against Him, actively or passively opposing Him, deliberately suppressing His truth, trying to wreck everything He was trying to do to reach us. Yet out of His love, Christ died for us—helpless, ungodly, sinners, enemies. That's who we were, but we're not those anymore. Through Jesus we were reconciled to God. Reconcile = to change, exchange; to go from hostility to harmony, from enemies to friends, from ungodly to holy, from sinners to saints. God accomplished this through the death of Jesus, and, since that's true, then MUCH MORE, (2), we shall be saved (daily and in the future) **through and by Jesus' life!** *This is a key to the rest of Romans!* We are saved—past, present, future—through Him living for us, in us, and through us! Jesus' life, in and through ours. Out of His love, that's God's plan. God's love is far beyond our comprehension. This is the kind of love that underlies His every action. This is what is behind what you're going through now. Why? To conform you and me to the image of His Son Jesus.

Never forget—God loves you; the Cross and the indwelling Holy Spirit prove it! His love makes it possible to be right with Him, saves us from His wrath, saves us by His life, even uses our pressures so we can exult in them!

If God loved us when helpless, ungodly, sinners, and enemies, proving His love by Jesus' death on the Cross, certainly He will not and cannot do anything but that which is good for us now that we're His children and He's our Father.

Some wrote, "Grace is free to the receiver & costly to the giver. God stooping to become a man. And then stooping to suffer the punishment we deserve."

"Our Father, Your love for us and Your Son's life in and through ours. What a plan! Thank You that this kind of love and life underlies Your every action. You can be fully trusted. You are the answer to our every question. May we appreciate Your loving arms wrapped around us. As we take our pressures and begin to look at them from the perspective of Your love and growth process, our pressures start to make sense. And Jesus, thank You for justifying us by Your blood, saving us from the Father's wrath, reconciling us to the Father, and continually saving us by Your life." And we all say, "_____!"

Reflecting on Romans 5:6-10: How does understanding God's love for you before you became a Christian help you in understanding what you're going through now? From these verses, how did God both reveal and demonstrate His love for each person? How does such love show up in and through you? How does this cause you to look at all other human beings? What are two lessons that impacted you? What are two applications you'll make to your thinking, choices, actions, and words? If emailing or writing a letter to someone, what are the facts from this passage you will emphasize?