

“Son” Flowers... A Devotional by the members of New Hope Church in Cooper, TX

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Scripture Verse Reference: 1 John 4:18 ***“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”*** (NKJV)

In All the Wrong Places

I'm dating myself, but one of my favorite movies as a young man was Urban Cowboy with John Travolta and Debra Winger from 1980. Oh wait, am I the only one who bought a ticket to watch that movie? One of my favorite lines from this movie was in a song by Mr. Johnny Lee entitled *Lookin' for Love*. The line; “I was lookin' for love in all the wrong places...” C'mon. Am I the only young person who realized they did that?

When lost in the darkness of sin, we know something is missing in our life. We long for it. Unfortunately, we can't quite figure out what “It” is. So, in accordance with our sinful nature and lifestyle, we look to fill that longing, that desire, with worldly things. Some try ungodly relationships, built on lust and not love. Others develop a love affair with themselves, food, their career, and other “temporary fixes” that ultimately lead to continued dissatisfaction. A term used to describe this today is FOMO, the Fear of Missing Out. After our salvation, many recognize the missing piece in their life was the peace and love of God.

First John 4:18 tells us there is no fear when we are made perfect in God's love. I don't mean that God's children never fear anymore. Instead, I mean God's perfect love removes our fear. It allows us to cast our cares upon the Father and focuses us on our future and not our temporary present. We face many fearful situations in this life: cancer, loss of a job, divorce, death of a loved one, or other temporary problems. As Christians, we know deep inside our future of eternity with God will remove all our tears, fears, doubts, and worries.

I encourage you to fill yourself with God's love each day through personal time with Him. It is through prayer, study, and dedicated time in His presence each morning I find the strength to face the day ahead. My “God time” each day sustains my faith, in the same way meals sustain my body. That's why my wife Diane and I always eat before we go grocery shopping. When we have empty stomachs, we look for satisfaction in all the wrong places, buying half the store.



God's Word helps to fill you with God's love

Make time to add God's love to your life each day. He will sustain you as you grow in Him.