

# The Gift of God that's Within You

Part 5: Touched by His Love (part 2)

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## Full Text (for reading on your own)

### *I want you to fast!*

Recently the Lord spoke to me and said “I want you to fast.” I said “how long?” He said “three days.” And then I prayed about how He wanted me to do it. That’s one of the things I tried to decide ahead of time - how to fast. Sometimes you can do juice. Sometimes just vegetables. Sometimes just water.

During my fast, I had 5 prayer objectives. One was about my destiny and another was about sustained revival in our church. Megan and I have been believing for sustained revival. Listen to part of a message I received from a former student (who I had not spoken to in a couple of years) part way through my fast:

*Hi Mr. Dewitt, I pray you are doing well. I apologize for the hour. Please read whenever you get a chance. I just had to send this now while it was fresh on my mind.*

*The Lord brought you to my spirit a few days ago, and ever since then he has just been showing me so much concerning you and the flock that you shepherd.*

*I’m not sure exactly what the lord has been revealing to you and having you share with your church, but i strongly sense a shift occurring within the body as you share what has been revealed to you. I am not sure what revelation you have received recently, but it is literally a weapon of mass destruction towards the enemy. You are carrying something very weighty within the spirit realm.*

*I keep hearing the term impartation, continually ringing in my spirit hovering over you all.*

*I see an image of vessels posturing themselves in an open position, and i hear God saying “Now I can pour”*

Sound familiar?! Out of the blue I received this word of knowledge / prophetic word! When? In the middle of my fast during which I was believing for sustained revival!

Sometimes prophecies can put a pressure on you. You have to realize that having begun in the Spirit you do not get perfected by the flesh. Sometimes when you get a prophetic word it can actually challenge you to get in the flesh instead of continuing to walk in the Spirit.

## Supernatural Humility

You only prosper in the Kingdom of God by receiving. *“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”* (Mt. 11:29-30) What’s Jesus’ burden / yoke? He is gentle and lowly in heart. It’s humility!

Humility is how we walk with God. Humility is how we receive. Humility is how we step into deeper places of worship. Humility is how we receive more revelation in our time in the Word. Humility is how we get insight into situations that are even grand situations.

David had humility. He said *“Lord, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me.”* (Ps. 131:1-2)

There’s a place of humility in the Lord that’s available to all of us that is actually the place of promotion.

What does God do to the humble? He exalts them and gives them grace! Grace is magnetized in the spirit realm to humility. Humility recognizes where there is deficiency and that humility actually sucks in the positive provision from God - the grace from God. It’s literally magnetized.

You would never put two magnets next to each other and think they wouldn’t attract because you know that it is a physical law that magnets attract each other a certain way.

When you are in pride, God’s grace is repelled from your life. It is a spiritual law. He opposes the proud. Does that mean He sabotages your life? No! It just means He doesn’t give you His grace.

When you get in humility, it magnetically attracts / draws in the grace. It’s not like God has to make a decision like “now My grace can flow.” The moment you got into humility, the grace was already sucked to you.

I’ve known a place in the Lord for so long where I can “flip a switch” and revelation starts flowing like a tidal wave. I’ve thought for many years “what’s that switch that I flip?” It’s humility! In other words, it’s recognizing your need before God.

Humility is not looking down upon yourself - it’s simply having right relationship / perspective with God. It says “He is my provider.” Since He is my provider, if I recognize a need I go to Him with it and as soon as that happens grace starts to flow into my life. We must believe that He is and that He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. It is impossible to please God apart from faith.

This is that heart stance that says “unless I am in humility such that I am receiving His blessings in my life, I am not pleasing Him.” What pleases Him is when that flow of His provision can happen. Humiliy says “I don’t need to be God; I will let Him provide for me. I can rest in that. I am going to take upon Jesus’ yoke. He was lowly and weak - and that’s what brings rest into my soul.”

When you take upon His yoke, you lost anxiety at mile marker 3. And then you lost stress at mile marker 4. And then you lost fear at mile marker 5. And then you lost pride at mile marker 6. And you don’t know what happened to all these things because they just sort of flake off and all the issues of the soul that we so often experience fly off because we stepped into humility.

His yoke is easy and His burden is light. And He is saying that His yoke is a gentle, quiet, humble heart. That’s what Jesus has!

I actually believe that humility is the beauty of Heaven. We know what beauty looks like here on earth and I am not saying there will not be that sort of beauty there, but I believe that humility is the beauty of heaven.

1 Peter 3:3-4 says *“Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel - rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with **the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.**”* I believe that when we operate in a place of humility it is actually gorgeous to Heaven. Psalm 149:4 says *“For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; **He will beautify the humble with salvation.**”*

### *Financial Testimony - 7x Payback!*

This past spring, Sheri received a statement in the mail from a credit card company with charges from the state of Washington - which she had never been to! The charges amounted to \$283.03.

Her first reaction was “oh no” but she caught herself and said “I’m not going to do that (get in worry)!” She remember Brad teaching about when his car got stolen and he didn’t even worry about it because he knew Proverbs 6:31 (about a thief stealing) *“Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold;”*

Sheri looked at Don and said “I’m not worried about this - this is coming back to us 7-fold.” So she printed out the scripture and put on their refrigerator and multiplied the amount stolen by 7. That amount was \$1,981.21. She said “I know that is coming back to me - I just don’t know when.

Back story ... for 3 years they needed trees cut down at their cottage. They contacted AEP about them because of their proximity to the power lines, but for 3 years AEP had refused to do it. So Don and Sheri hired a tree service for \$2000 to come and do that this summer.

When the tree service was there, AEP drove up and said “you can’t cut those trees down.” Don said “I’ve talked to you for 3 years and you’ve refused to do it.” AEP said it is too dangerous for the other company to do. Don said “when are we going to get these trees down?” AEP said they would be back on Monday.

AEP came back, cut down the one tree, and then with a bit of follow-up came back and cut down the other as well 7 months later. So in October the second tree came down and dawned on Sheri “that’s the 7-fold!” They had arranged to pay \$2000 for the trees to be removed and it ended up costing them \$0. They were believing for \$1,981.21 to payback the \$283.03 that had been stolen ... and God beat that number by about \$19! Praise God!

Notice: she calculated the number and posted it! She put the ONE who made the promise “on the hook” right there. She did not think “oh God’s Word may or may not come true” she said “I am going to honor God’s Word and post the number we are waiting to see as fulfillment of His Word!” And then sure enough He delivered on it!

### *Encountering God’s Love*

The love of God is one of the toughest things to teach because most Christians KNOW ABOUT the love of God but not nearly as many have ENCOUNTERED the love of God.

In the last message I briefly share the story of an encounter I had the beach of Lake Erie. The Lord had removed shame from me and then positioned me to singularly see a dramatic display of His love ... probably 10,000 seagulls, a clearly stormy sky with shafts of light piercing through the clearing clouds, a 45 minute double rainbow, and a majestic sunset that faded into soft, beautiful pink and blue Northern sky. (HEAR THE STORY in the November 5th sermon)

As I watch this beautiful scene unfold for me. God spoke to me “I love you.” It sank deep into my heart and I said “thank you.” To my surprise He said “stop thanking Me.” He said “you’re thanking Me because you think it is hard for Me to love you - but it’s NOT hard for Me to love you.” He started ministering His love to me and then He told me “I’ve given you an impartation of My love ... go and give it to others.”

Remember my former student’s word?

*“I’m not sure exactly what the lord has been revealing to you and having you share with your church, but i strongly sense a shift occurring within the body as you share what has been revealed to you. I am not sure what revelation you have received recently, but it is literally a weapon of mass destruction towards the enemy. You are carrying something very weighty within the spirit realm. I keep hearing the term impartation, continually ringing in my spirit hovering over you all.”*

## *The Love of God & The Grace of God*

The love of God and the grace of God are inseparable, but allow me to try to split hairs to make a distinction. When I had that encounter with God's love at the lake I then had this phrase come to mind: "I've known the grace of God but now I know the heart behind that grace."

I had more fully discovered the LOVE that was propelling that grace. God so LOVED the world that He GAVE ... In other words, God's GRACE is always propelled by His LOVE! When you encounter His provision, know that you are encountering an expression of His love!

Remember Brad's definition of grace. Grace is God's willingness to use His power and His ability on our behalf.

If all you know is the grace of God, in a way, you have the greatest benefactor of all time. The sacrifice was to purchase a relationship. Eternal life is *that we may know Him!* God's grace is always both provision and an invitation to relationship. In the context of knowing Him, He provides for us, which is incredible!

You can't separate the two (grace and love) but I am trying to say that it is possible to know the grace of God but not have a full revelation of the love of God. We want to have both!

You can't know the love of God apart from the grace of God. Even if you had a wild encounter with the love of God (like I had on the beach for instance), if you didn't know the grace of God, you would be in condemnation pretty quickly ... because you wouldn't know just how much He attuned for all of your sins for all time. The result would be that you would get into condemnation (which we know leads to separation) which would cause you step out of the love of God.

So you need the grace of God to stay in the love of God, but the revelation of the love of God is the goal of the grace of God. Faith, hope, and love remain ... but the greatest of these is truly love!

His love really is the greatest! It makes everything else irrelevant. I'm believing for sustained revival in the church, but there is a part of me that doesn't even care if we have revival - as long as I am loved by Him. Now, I do want sustained revival - people will be blessed and it will be a blast and all of that - but it almost doesn't even matter.

I remember that night where I encountered God's love on the beach that I had been set free of shame prior to that. After encountering His love, though, I had the strongest sense "I don't care what I got set free of ... what's it matter ... I'm loved!"

## Vitamin L(ove)

1 John 2:15-16 says *“If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.”* If we end up in pride easily ... or if we find ourselves constantly wanting MORE or BETTER ... cars, houses, clothes, whatever. It's wanting something that is outside of you.

This is going to really help some of you ... Colossians tells us that all covetousness is idolatry. In other words, if you are looking for satisfaction in something outside of you, what that means is you are serving another God. You are getting your fix from something that's not God. Every place where we have an ounce of covetousness is a place where God's wanting His grace to enter our life - wanting His provision to enter our life.

Every time you find you are looking outside of yourself for something, it is a mile marker and a signpost at which God is saying “turn off here, turn into My love, turn into My grace, because I want to provide that need that you have.” You have needs and He wants to meet them.

Pride is basically coveting people's opinions of you. It's that simple. Why? Because you need affirmation.

If you are coveting needing a really fancy car it is because there is some need you are trying to meet with the car. Now, you can have fancy cars and it not be out of covetousness. You simply have plenty of money for it and would enjoy one ... it's that simple. Someone comes over and you easily offer “hey, would you like to borrow it?” There's an ease to it ... but if it is out of covetousness, it is not condemnation ... God is saying “I want to MEET THAT NEED that's in your heart. Let My love come into that place.” What if there was no place in our heart that God's love couldn't penetrate?

What if there was no place in our heart that we wouldn't open the door to let Him fully into.

Love is an essential vitamin in the kingdom of God. How many of us are probably Vitamin L deficient? Ephesians 3 says that if know the love of God, we will be filled with all the fullness of God. So if don't have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control abounding in our life in such a way that when we are squeezed that's what comes out ... we don't have the fullness of God in our life yet ... again not condemnation ... it's a signal and God is saying “let more of My love into your heart so that more of My fullness would be coming out.”

Notice that the first of the Spirit is love. You need to receive His love in order for the rest of the fruits to develop.

## *Revival has Sprouted, but don't Stomp out Your Sprouts!*

I believe revival has sprouted in our church. I am surely experiencing a personal revival. I also know of multiple people in our church whose lives have been lit on fire by God within just the past few months.

At the same time, some of us may be feeling like "I don't feel much that's different."

I want to encourage you all that there are stages of growth. Recently I heard Dani Johnson speak on how there is preparation, sowing, sprouting, and harvest seasons. The sprouting is when it finally comes through the ground. I believe that revival has sprouted in our church! There are some things - the power of God, the love of God, people getting set free, that have sprouted here - have come above the ground!

But as Dani Johnson said so well, you need to be careful when you have sprouts that you don't squash them! Sometimes we squash the sprouts in our life through a lack of thankfulness. We need to thank God for the new growth we are seeing!

As soon as you see a sprout come up you know exactly what you will have! When I see little tomato leaves break through the soil in May I know exactly what I will have in August!

It takes faith to prep the ground. It takes a little less faith to plant the tomato seeds. It takes less faith even yet to not disdain the fact that the tomato has come through the soil. You are seeing it! But if your first reaction upon seeing the sprouts of revival is to immediately say "ah, no fruit yet" you are crushing that sprout in your life! Don't let that be the case!

Again, I believe that revival has SPROUTED in our church ... I am receiving reports from people about being touched by God at service - and outside of Sunday service! There are some things that are happening already, AND don't grow weary in doing good for in DUE TIME you will reap a harvest if you don't give up. I don't believe we are in the HARVEST season yet, but we are in the SPROUTING season. If you conflate those two in your thinking you can become disgruntled with the process and stomp out your sprouts through a lack of thanksgiving.

## *The Main Hinderance to Walking in His Love*

The single greatest tactic of the enemy to keep you from walking in His love is condemnation. Romans 8:33-35 makes it clear that there is an accusation that leads to condemnation and that condemnation leads to separation. If we will refuse to receive the demonic accusation we will not step into condemnation and thereby avoid a sense of separation from His love. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord - except receiving condemnation!

When accusation is believed or received, it turns into condemnation - and condemnation always leads to separation. If there is condemnation in your marriage, there will be a lack of intimacy. If you still feel condemned for something you did 10 years ago, you will stifle intimacy in your marriage - whether it was related to your marriage or not. Concurrently, if you feel condemned for some thought you had, you will separate yourself from the love of God.

God says “draw near to Me and I will draw near to you” but many of us are afraid and timid about drawing near to Him because of condemnation. This is why I am saying you can’t really know and stay in the love of God apart from knowing the grace of God, but grace has a relational purpose. We can know more of the love of God if stay firm in the grace of God.

Isaiah 54:17 is a weapon of destruction towards condemnation. *“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me,” says the Lord.*”

As a believer, you have been made righteous in Christ. He became sin who knew no sin that we might each become the righteousness of God in Him. That was the exchange! When we received Christ we became as perfectly righteous as He has ever been - because as perfectly sinful as mankind had ever been. God is saying if you will operate in faith and condemn the tongue that rises against you in judgment, Jesus (your advocate) will come and start to speak on your behalf “no he / she will NOT BE CONDEMNED because his / her righteousness is FROM ME” He will declare!

You have to fight condemnation. Condemnation will sabotage your intimacy with God like nothing else can. NOTHING shall separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord - except condemnation.

Here’s a hint ... if you have the same condemning thought come all the time. Ask God “why?” Why does that accuser keep coming? I’m not saying to take ownership of the accusation ... keep condemning it. But is there a reason that demonic spam caller keeps calling you up? I’ve found asking God “why” about this sort of persistent / frequent accusation is a great key to recognizing a place where I need a touch from God and/or perhaps set free of something.

If the same accusation keeps coming, ask God “why is that” and let Him speak into it with His love. God show me what that is so I don’t even need to deal with that caller any more. I can keep shutting the door, but I would like to not even need to field the knock on my door any more!

Remember, that an accusation, entertained, is what becomes condemnation. As a believer, you are sure to have demonic spam callers knock at your door and solicit your engagement with them by telling you a lie. Shut the door in their face! Say “I condemn you. That’s a lie.” and shut the door in their face.

If you however, let them into your house and entertain them, it turns into condemnation. You cannot entertain a lie and not get confused - that includes YOU! Some of us think “no, I am slick enough, I can entertain this ...” No you ain’t! You will get confused. So, you don’t entertain a liar or you will start believing lies. So what do you do? You shut it in it’s face!

All that said, if you end up with the same caller calling with the same accusation over and over ... why is that? Because you answered! You talked to him once! You entertained him once!

Imagine you are back in college and invited this guy, Billy, who you met in English class to a party at your place. Why not? Let’s say he gets really intoxicated and makes a total mess of your house. You are thinking “woh is me ... why did I invite Billy!?!”

Next time you throw a party, you don’t invite Billy - you’re not stupid - but Billy still shows up! You’re thinking “NO ... why did Bill show up?” And then the same at the next party. Billy keeps showing up. Do you know why he keeps showing up? You invited him!!!

When you’ve invited a guest who you now realize is NOT WANTED, what do you have to do? You have to dis-invite them! This sounds so simple you might not realize how powerful it is ...

You need to command demonic spirits that you’ve entertained in your thoughts to LEAVE in the name (authority) of Jesus. Say “I know I’ve talked to you before - I’m NEVER talking to you again. Get out of my life in Jesus’ Name. I condemn you, you lying tongue. I will not pay attention to or entertain you any longer. GO in Jesus’ Name.”

Because if you have not dis-invited the ones that you’ve entertained before, they will keep knocking at your door and you will wonder “why do I need to keep slamming the door in their face?” Confront it head on and command it to go so that you don’t even have to slam that door any more. Cast it out formally! “This time I am not only going to shut the door in your face, but I command you to TAKE ME OFF YOUR LIST - you’ve got NO PART of me! Take me off your list - don’t even show up or call any more!”

### *Not by Works of Righteousness which we Have Done*

Titus 3:4 says “*when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done ...*” The kindness and the love of God did not appear based on our works. It wasn’t based your works for you to receive His love - and it will never be based on your works to keep His love. His kindness and His love *appeared* to you NOT by works that you did ... which means they will NOT *disappear* from you because of works that you do or don’t do!

God’s love is an unconditional sort of love. That’s what 1 John 3:1 says “*Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!*” Look what sort of love this is

... it's the sort of love that means we should each be called a child of God because it is the love that a Father has towards each of His children. It's unconditional love. It's family love. It's agape love. It's love that's not based on your works - you will always be My son. You will always be My daughter!

If you feel an ounce of separation between you and God you have given in to an ounce of condemnation. No other thing can I tell you that would give you more intimacy with the Father than learning how to stay clear of condemnation - learning how to stay clear of believing that is based on your works - but instead to stay firmly fixed in the grace of God!

### *His Truth AND His Ways!*

1 John 2:27 says *"But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things ..."* The Holy Spirit directs us into all truth.

Ephesians 4:15 tells us that the body (of Christ) grows up by speaking the truth in love.

John 1:17 tells us that grace and truth came in Jesus. Grace and love go together. So again here we are seeing the same sort of connection as Ephesians 4:15. Truth AND love.

The point is this ... as a preacher, if I miss the love of God, I actually missed half of the message. That is not over-stated. If I (or you) had the truth of God but I actually missed the love of God ... I (or you) would be missing half of the message. We are supposed to (1) speak the truth (2) in love.

So, the Holy Spirit is bringing us into all truth, but we also need the love - the heart of God! (Of course, the heart of God is part of the truth of God, but again please let me make a distinction).

David had a revelation of what I am trying to communicate here. Psalms 25:4-5 says *"Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day."* David was asking for 2 types of instruction from God ... one was to teach him God's TRUTH and the other was to show him God's WAYS.

I started praying to know God's truth AND ways. Not just what He says, but how He does it!

93% of human communication is non-verbal. We are made in His image. Is it possible that 93% of how He is speaking to you is not with words?

In Psalms 95:10, God laments that the Israelites did not know His WAYS. *"For forty years I was grieved with that generation, and said, It is a people who go astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways."*

This is why you want to pray AND read the Word. It's key that both are there. Prayer produces a certain thing in your life - you start to smell and sound like Jesus. You start to speak like Jesus. You

start to love like Jesus. The Word makes you accurate. You start to think like Jesus and have wisdom like Jesus. Of course, when you are in the Word, you can have encounters with Him and get His ways - and when you are in prayer you can open His Word.

What I am saying is that people can sometimes sound a lot like Jesus but they are flakey - they are not in His Word, they are in prayer. Likewise sometimes people will say a lot of right theology and God doesn't like a whole lot of what they have to say - because it is not with His heart. Let us pray that He would show us not only His truth but also His ways!

God's love is not only a theological concept ... it is an encounter! Truth AND ways.

John 13:22-24 says *"Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke."*

John's ear was on Jesus' heartbeat. Why was his ear so close to Jesus' heart? Because John knew His love! We can lean on Jesus' heart and actually hear His heartbeat. You can hear the Father's heart for you - not just His words. When we think that we can only hear His words, we will only experience a small portion of His love. We will know love in theory, but we won't know the heart behind it.

I was recently in prayer one day and I felt this "closeness" to my right ear. I said "what is that?" The Father said "that's my gentleness; you've just encountered my gentleness." I thought "wow, I've never felt anything like that!" The fruit of the spirit are actually aspects of God that He is inviting us to encounter.

John had his ear on Jesus' heart. He wasn't just hearing Jesus' words - he was hearing His Savior's heartbeat.

Look now who was expected to hear His words first? The one that was closest to His heart! Ephesians 3 tells us that when we know the love of God, it gives us comprehension. When you know the love of God, it gives you a grace to understand what He is doing. When your ear is close to His heart you will actually hear more of His words and you will hear more of His words more accurately.

I recently met a young lady who told me she was asking God to give her a "prophetic edge." I kindly but succinctly told her "God is not going to answer that prayer ... He will not give you a prophetic edge. He will give you love and sometimes love will propel you to speak a bold word ... you desire a good thing, but that's not the avenue that you're going to get it." Love is always the propulsion behind everything that Jesus did and everything that He said. Sometimes it was a very gentle word and sometimes it was a very firm word, but it was always propelled by love.

We know the story of the rich young ruler in Mark 10. In verse 21 we see that *Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him.* First He looked at him (face-to-face connection). Then He loved him (love). Then He spoke to him (words). Notice the order - it was the heart of God before the Word of God.

Praise God He corrects us as sons. Hebrews 12 tells us about it. I will feel a check in my heart and I will ask God what it is and He will show me. "God do I need to apologize to anyone?" "No, no one else saw it, but I did - don't go that way." He corrects me before something gets big - or even noticeable. I'm glad He corrects me ... but how does He do it? He connects with me, loves me, and corrects me. Even His hard words are wrapped in love.

The first point is that condemnation is what steals the love walk. The second point is we need to have a hunger for not only His words but also His ways!

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## Summary

You only prosper in the Kingdom of God by receiving. Humility is how we receive. There's a place of humility in the Lord that's available to all of us that is actually the place of promotion. When you get in humility, it magnetically attracts / draws in the grace. When you take upon the yoke of Christ the issues of the soul that we so often experience fly off because we stepped into humility.

The love of God is one of the toughest things to teach because most Christians KNOW ABOUT the love of God but not nearly as many have ENCOUNTERED the love of God. God so LOVED the world that He GAVE ... In other words, God's GRACE is always propelled by His LOVE! When you encounter His provision, know that you are encountering an expression of His love!

Every time you find you are looking outside of yourself for something, it is a mile marker and a signpost at which God is saying "turn off here, turn into My love, turn into My grace, because I want to provide that need that you have." Likewise if don't have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control abounding in our life in such a way that when we are squeezed that's what comes out it's a signal and God is saying "let more of My love into your heart so that more of My fullness would be coming out." Notice that the first fruit of the Spirit is love. You need to receive His love in order for the rest of the fruits to fully develop!

The single greatest tactic of the enemy to keep you from walking in His love is condemnation. When accusation is believed or received, it turns into condemnation - and condemnation always leads to separation. As a believer, you have been made righteous in Christ. We have to fight condemnation. Here's a hint ... if you have the same condemning thought come all the time. Ask God "why?" When you've invited a guest who you now realize is NOT WANTED, what do you have to do? You have to dis-invite them! This sounds so simple you might not realize how powerful it is ... You need to command demonic spirits that you've entertained in your thoughts to LEAVE in the name (authority) of Jesus. Confront it head on and command it to go so that you don't even have to slam that door any more. Cast it out formally! "This time I am not only going to shut the door in your face, but I command you to TAKE ME OFF YOUR LIST - you've got NO PART of me!"

David asked for 2 types of instruction from God ... one was to teach him God's TRUTH and the other was to show him God's WAYS. 93% of human communication is non-verbal. We are made in His image. Is it possible that 93% of how He is speaking to you is not with words? God's love is not only a theological concept ... it is an encounter! Truth AND ways. You can hear the Father's heart for you - not just His words. When we think that we can only hear His words, we will only experience a small portion of His love. We will know love in theory, but we won't know the heart behind it. When your ear is close to His heart you will actually hear more of His words and you will hear more of His words more accurately. Even God's hard words are wrapped in love.