

### **Shelia Hall Price:**

God's love can be found in John 3:16. And it says this, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son. That whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life." That love, let's explain it a little bit deeper. God's love is unbreakable love, indeed. And this love is what we're going to talk about today. So when God uses that word love, there are so many meanings and it's so much deeper than we can ever understand. We can't truly fully comprehend what it means by God's love. So in John 4:7-8, we see a story of the woman at the well. The woman at the well was approached by Jesus. And when he approached her, he said, "Give me a drink of water." And that woman looked at Jesus and she was concerned, but Jesus reassured her that his disciples had already gone into the city to gather food. So the woman at the well, she agreed.

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I really like this story. And the reason is, is when I think about Jesus approaching the woman at the well, when he saw her, he noticed her suffering and the burden that she carried. But when he saw her, he saw her as cherished. He saw her as accepted. And no matter her experiences and no matter her suffering, he still loved her.

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So you see here, what is this? It's a cup of water. Right? Would you like a drink if you were thirsty? Of course you would. I'm

thirsty myself. Imagine it being a hot summer day, being outside, you'd be thirsty as well. So let me take a sip. Mm. After you sip water, you want to take another drink. Right? Of course. And the reason being is, after you take that first sip and the water goes down and it quenches your thirst, maybe that water is going to dissipate in different ways. It could dissipate through sweat or through going to the restroom. And of course, as the water dissipates, you continue to drink, because water sustains life.

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So this story about the woman at the well, I've really been reflecting on it. And what I notice is, that's both you and me. We are all that woman at the well. In life, we carry things such as shame and embarrassment, our struggles, we wonder if we're worthy. Some of us struggle with doubt, some of us struggle with self-image. We wonder if we're good enough, and we also are so concerned about what others think of us. And the list goes on and on and on, but Jesus still loves us. He still loves you and he still loves me. And when he sees me, he sees worthy, he sees cherished, no matter our experiences. So the woman at the well, when we think of her, we should imagine ourselves. Right?

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Let's take a look at another story in Romans 38-39. Consider this, let's think about the words. Consider this with me carefully. Okay? The scripture says this, "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, 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." Mm. We all need that confidence. It's something that we need to keep in the back of our minds, that God's love is enduring through any struggle, through any difficulty. Wow.

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The new living translation says it this way. We might not notice the first time, but watch carefully, it says this, "For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't and life can't, the angels won't and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. So our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow or where we are, high above the sky or in the deepest oceans, nothing will ever separate us from the love of God, demonstrated through our Lord Jesus Christ when he died for us. Hallelujah." Mm.

### **Shelia Hall Price:**

So I want to share one of my experiences with you briefly. My family had a dog growing up, and that dog actually bit me. And when it bit me, it bit my lip and my lip was torn. Oh, I was really shocked that the dog bit me in the first place, but sure enough, I had to go and get stitches. And after I got those stitches, I felt like, ugh, this experience was not worth it. I felt so embarrassed to have a scar on my lip. But during that time, God, he said something to me. He said, "Who says you're not beautiful? Who says you're not wonderful? Who says that you're not perfect? I have made you and I'm here to tell you, I believe you're beautiful." God told me that, and I realized that he sees me as perfect in his eyes.

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From that moment, my life changed. Remember that cup of water? So imagine it being sprinkled out. Water is life. This is living water. So imagine when that water is sprinkled out, it has unbreakable power, continuous love. And we too should permeate out and touch people with God's love. Just like the woman at the well when she accepted Jesus, she accepted his love and she went out to tell others. And that love touched others.

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So I want to talk a little bit more about this when we permeate love. You and I will show the love of God to other people. In Psalms 118:1 it says this, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." Now that's proof, this is a fact. The scriptures are true and they say so many things that we are able to tell others about his love. His unbreakable love. God's love, we should hold it close.