

“I Don’t Wait Anymore” chapter 3 study outline

Do you feel sometimes that your heart is aching for a change? Do you ever feel like your world doesn’t make sense, or like your faith in God isn’t quite making it into the real-life pain you’re dealing with?

The reality is ... a real encounter with God’s love changes everything. It doesn’t take away the brokenness of this world — the perfect, deathless, pain-free life we long for doesn’t exist here. It exists in the world we’re really made for, the one yet to come in eternity. But His love does give us a brand-new heart and a new set of eyes to see the world around us through an eternal perspective. That can change things more radically than you can imagine until you experience it for yourself.

Are you aware that you are intimately, expensively and intensely loved by God?

He loves you **intimately**.

- Psalm 56:8 shows us how He knows every single one of our tears. Throughout the Bible, story after story and truth after truth shows how He hears us, sees us and loves us.

He loves you **expensively**.

- Your biggest need in life is to be saved from your sin and be made right with God so you can be with Him and enjoy Him forever. This redemption came at the price of Jesus’ suffering and death (1 Peter 2:24, Ephesians 5:2, John 15:13). May the magnitude of that reality never get dull to our hearts. How incredible that God would love us like that!

He loves you **intensely**.

- He’s constantly pursuing your heart. We see in Acts 17:24-27 how God is constantly orchestrating where we live and move so that one day we might know His love.

His love for you is the greatest thing you can know — we’re created to love and be loved by Him. So for Him to come down and die for us so that we could know Him is the biggest gift He could give us. It meets our deepest need, whether we’re aware of it yet or not.

Questions for discussion from IDWA chapter 3:

- Is God big enough in your heart to make your “why” fade in comparison to His love? Do you ever feel like your “why” has gotten big in your heart and God has gotten small?
- This chapter talks about a girl named Sarah and how the faith she had just looked different. Have you ever met anyone who knew God in such a way that peace and joy just radiated from them? **Have you ever known that kind of peace yourself? Does knowing that it can be had make you want to pursue it?**
- Can you recognize in your life any ways (big or small) that God is pursuing you?

Next week, we’ll look more at how to pursue God in return.