

Chapter 1

Gospel Centered Motivation

What would motivate you to sacrifice your precious time, energy, and money to home-school your children or send them to a Christian school dedicated to teaching a Biblical worldview, when you can have the public schools take care of your children's education for "free"? What would motivate you to reform your entire way of life in order to obey God in providing a Biblical education for your children? The motivation of fear? Because if you don't obey, God will punish you? The motivation of reward? Because if you do obey, God will reward you? Neither of these motivations accurately represent God's desire for us. God desires for us to choose to reform our entire way of life because of our love for Him. God desires for us to choose to reform our entire way of life to bring Him honor and glory.

But what would make us abandon our selfish desires, love Him more than ourselves, and want to live for His glory instead of our own? The answer is, His amazing, self-sacrificing love and undeserved kindness that He expressed for us on the cross. Remember, if you are His, it was His love and kindness that led you to repentance and faith in Him (Romans 2: 4). In the same way, by being reminded of the depths of His love for you, you will have more than enough motivation to deny yourself, pick up your cross, and live by His Word; more than enough motivation to rescue your children from the public schools and provide for them a purely Biblical education. In order for us to do this, we need to focus on our primary motivation for every good work; the love of God expressed to us through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

*"but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
(Romans 5: 8)*

At this point, some of you might be thinking "Why is the author taking the time to go over the gospel?" "I already know the gospel?" "Why didn't he just go straight to the Biblical principles for education or an exposé on the public schools?" The reason is because the gospel is not just a pre-requisite to the Christian life or even its foundation. The gospel is the Christian life! Trust me. If you don't approach the topic of your children's education with a completely gospel centered focus, you will not only lack the proper motivation to sacrifice what your flesh holds dear in order to follow through on this monumental task, you will ultimately fail to give your children a truly Biblical education.

Now it is time to add fuel to the fire of your passion to live by God's Word through a thorough study of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel: Our Primary Motivation

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."
(John 3: 16 – 17)

This is the most commonly quoted passage about the gospel in America today, but most people have no idea what it means. Most unbelievers don't understand the spectacular nature of the good news of the gospel because they have never been told the bad news that they have sinned against a holy God and justly deserve an eternity in hell. Since they have no idea what they need to be saved from, they don't understand the true value of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and as a result, they don't understand the love of God. Without this understanding, the gospel's call to repent of their sins and have faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior is unintelligible.

Even most Christians don't realize just how much they have been forgiven. This has resulted in a lack of passion and love for God, and as a result, a lack of motivation to repent of worldly practices in order to live according to God's Word for His glory. This means that in order to truly understand the gospel, we must begin with the bad news.

Just like a jeweler uses black velvet as a background to maximize the brilliance of the diamonds that he showcases for his clients, the darkness of our sin and the wrath of God that we deserve for our crimes against our Creator make the love of God expressed on the cross shine before our eyes with an unimaginable brilliance.¹ It is this love that leads us to love Jesus more than anything in the universe including more than our own lives and wage war on every sin that put our Jesus on the cross. It is also this love for God that motivates us to disciple our children whom we love to the God whom we love. Our love for God as a result of the gospel is what gives us the passion and determination to glorify God in our educational decisions regardless of any of the inconveniences that an education reformation may bring.

In order to have a greater understanding of the love of God and foster a greater love for God in our hearts that will fuel a greater desire to live by His Word for His glory; I invite you to take a closer look at God's plan of salvation starting at the beginning.

¹ Adapted from Paul Washer's True Gospel Sermon Series

God's Plan of Salvation

In the beginning, God created the universe and declared it to be very good (Genesis 1: 31). There was no sin and as a result, no death, no disease, and no suffering. Compared to the corrupted creation that we experience today, it was the ultimate paradise. On the 6th day of creation, God created Adam and Eve in His image (Genesis 1: 26 – 27), sinless and as a result, free to fellowship with God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2). If it wasn't for the fall of man, we would have remained sinless and been free to enjoy our fellowship with God in paradise forever.

In the fall of man, Eve was deceived by the serpent (2 Corinthians 11: 3) while Adam rebelled against God by eating the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3), bringing sin and death into the world.

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.” (Romans 5: 12)

Adam's sin resulted in the fall of the entire human race from the goodness of God and caused the corruption of all creation (Romans 8: 19 – 22). Adam and Eve being the parents of all who are living (1 Corinthians 15: 22, Acts 17: 26, Genesis 3: 20), passed onto us, their descendents, a corrupted sin nature which makes us slaves to sin (Romans 6: 20 – 21) and spiritually dead (Romans 5: 12, Ephesians 2: 1).

The Apologetics Group, in their documentary “Amazing Grace”, describes the human condition after the fall in the following way: “In our fallenness the Bible describes us as

- ❖ Darkened in our understanding. (Ephesians 4: 18, 1 Corinthians 2: 14)
- ❖ Carnally minded, at enmity with God, and incapable of being subject to Him. (Romans 8: 5 – 7)
- ❖ Haters of God and lovers of darkness. (Romans 1: 30, John 3: 19)
- ❖ Dead in our transgressions and sins, by nature children of wrath without the life of God in our souls. (Ephesians 2: 1 – 5)
- ❖ Slaves to our sinful nature, captive to a “my will be done” ethic and epistemology. (Romans 6: 20 – 21, John 8: 34, Titus 3: 3)
- ❖ With hearts that are so twisted with our self centeredness that out of them come evil thoughts, vulgar deeds, stealing, murder, unfaithfulness in marriage, greed, meanness, deceit, indecency, envy, insults, pride, and foolishness. (Mark 7: 21 – 22)
- ❖ We have all turned; everyone to his own way. (Isaiah 53: 6)
- ❖ Where even the thoughts and imaginations of our hearts are evil continually from our youth. (Genesis 6: 5; 8: 21)”

It's clear from God's Word that because of the fall each and every one of us are born with a totally depraved sin nature that loves sin and hates God. And sadly, because of our sinful natures, we have willfully broken God's commandments (Exodus 20: 1 – 17) countless times.

Commandment #1: "You shall have no other gods before Me."

And

Commandment #2: "You shall not make for yourself an idol."

We have worshiped ourselves instead of God by bowing down to the idols of pleasure and self-fulfillment. The truth is, we are selfish by nature and selfishness is idolatry. As a result, it would be impossible for us to count how many times we have broken the first and second commandments.

Commandment #3: "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain."

We have used the name of the LORD our God in vain by using it as a filthy, four-letter word when angry, or without the respect that it's due as a common expression. Blasphemy has become a common figure of speech in our culture as our hearts' natural hatred towards God has escaped our mouths as easily as the air that we breathe.

Commandment#4: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

We have not kept the Sabbath day holy. We thought so little of God that we didn't even set aside a single day to worship Him.

Commandment#5: "Honor your father and your mother."

We have been disobedient to our parents. We thought that God didn't care about the sins of our youth, but we were wrong.

Commandment#6: "You shall not murder."

If we have not murdered in the flesh, we certainly have murdered in our hearts by having even momentary hateful thoughts about people in our lives (1 John 3: 15).

Commandment#7: "You shall not commit adultery."

God sees all sexual activity outside of marriage as sexual immorality. Jesus even said that if you look upon a person to lust after them, you have already committed adultery with them in your heart (Matt. 5: 27 – 28). This means that the breaking of this commandment includes adultery, pre-marital sex, homosexual sex, or even having sexual thoughts about someone who is not your spouse. How many times have we done that?

Commandment#8: “You shall not steal.”

How many times have you taken something that wasn't yours? Remember, to God it doesn't matter the item's value or from whom you have taken it from. Theft is theft. If you have stolen even once, God sees you as a thief.

Commandment#9: “You shall not lie.”

Have you lost count of how many lies you've told in your life? I sure have.

Commandment #10: “You shall not covet.”

Even if you have never stolen a single thing in your life, you have at least been covetous countless times which is idolatry (Colossians 3: 5).

Ultimately, all of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3: 23), and we have no idea what that means.

We are like pigs with their slop. Pigs love slop. They gorge themselves on it and wallow in it until every part of their bodies are covered with slop. They don't have any idea how disgusting the slop really is. In the same way, we have no idea how disgusting sin really is. We live every minute of every day immersed in a world that has been corrupted by sin. Sin is something we see, hear, and do almost every moment of our lives. In this life, sin is all around us and in us. We can't escape it. In the end, we have lost all perspective regarding how thoroughly defiling sin really is.

Almighty God, in His perfect holiness, describes sin in different contexts in the following ways:

- ❖ “Dog's Vomit (2 Peter 2: 22)
- ❖ Putrefying sores (Isaiah 1: 5 – 6) NKJV
- ❖ Gangrene (2 Timothy 2: 17)
- ❖ A Dead and Rotting Body (Romans 7: 24) (Matthew 23: 27)
- ❖ And the Stench of an Open Grave (Romans 3: 13)”²

² List compiled by Todd Friel of Wretched Radio

God sees us as so completely defiled by our sins that He had the prophet Isaiah compare us to someone with leprosy. As a result, God sees even our good works like a fine white, silk robe placed on a person with the worst kind of leprosy. Moments after touching the puss and rotting flesh, the robe itself becomes defiled.³ In the same way, our good works are hopelessly defiled by our sins.

“We all have become like one who is unclean, all of our righteous acts are like filthy rags. We all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away” (Isaiah 64: 6) (NIV).

In the end, by our own merit, we would all stand guilty before Almighty God and deserve to suffer God’s Wrath on evil for eternity in hell.

God Himself has determined that an eternity in hell is the fair and just punishment for rebellion against His Sovereign Rule through the breaking of His Law. Jesus, the very One who loved us so much that He suffered the wrath of God that we deserve for our sins on the cross, spoke about hell more than anyone else in the Bible (Matthew 5: 22, 5:29, 5:30, 8: 11-13, 10:28, 13: 41 – 43, 13: 49 – 50, 18:9, 22: 12 – 14, , 23:15, 23:33, 24: 50 – 51, 25: 30, 25: 46, Mark 9: 43 – 49, Luke 12: 5, 13: 28, 16: 19 – 41, John 15: 6 etc...). On the surface this doesn’t seem to make sense. How could Jesus’ love and the reality of hell go hand in hand? Easy, love hates evil, warns others of imminent danger, and provides a way to be saved from that danger. This is exactly what Jesus did! The following are some of the things that the Word of God says about hell:

Jesus said,

“So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous (those who have Christ’s righteousness as born again believers) and throw them (the evil) into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Matthew 13: 49 – 50) (Explanation added)

“The Son of Man (Jesus) will send His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.” (Matthew 13: 41 – 43)(Explanation added)

When referring to people who persecute Christians, the Word of God says,

³ Adapted from Paul Washer’s True Gospel Sermon Series

“When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction,” (2 Thessalonians 1: 7b – 9a)

The eternal destruction is further described in Revelation 14: 10 – 12:

“he also will drink the wine of God’s wrath, poured full strength into the cup of His anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night,” (Revelation 14: 10 – 11b)

Contrary to those who believe that eternal destruction means that the people who will be thrown into hell are simply going to be annihilated and cease to exist, Jesus was clear that their punishment will go on for all of eternity.

“And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (Matthew 25:46)(Emphasis added)

“Eternal punishment ... eternal life. The same Greek word is used in both instances. The punishment of the wicked is as never-ending as the bliss of the righteous. The wicked are not given a second chance, nor are they annihilated. The punishment of the wicked dead is described throughout Scripture as “everlasting fire” (Matthew 5: 41); “unquenchable fire” (Matthew 3: 12); “shame and everlasting contempt” (Daniel 12:2); a place where “their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched” (Mark 9: 44 – 49); a place of “torments” and “flame” (Luke 16: 23, 24); “everlasting destruction” (2Thessalonians: 1: 9); a place of torment with “fire and brimstone” where “the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever” (Revelation 14: 10,11); and a “lake of fire and brimstone” where the wicked are “tormented day and night forever and ever” (Revelation 20: 10). Here Jesus indicates that the punishment itself is everlasting – not merely the smoke and flames. The wicked are forever subject to the fury and the wrath of God. They consciously suffer shame and contempt and the assaults of an accusing conscience – along with the fiery wrath of an offended deity – for all of eternity. Even hell will acknowledge the perfect justice of God (Psalm 76: 10); those who are there will know that their punishment is just and that they alone are to blame (cf. Deuteronomy 32: 3 – 5).”⁴

If you have not repented of your sins and trusted in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, listen to the warning of your conscience. God declares that all liars, murderers,

⁴ Dr. John MacArthur, The MacArthur Study Bible, p. 1442

the sexually immoral, and the unbelieving will have their part in the lake of fire (Revelation 21: 8). No thief, no adulterer, no idolater, and no covetous person will have their part in the Kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6: 9 – 10).

The Gospel

Thankfully God is not just holy and perfect in His justice and wrath, God is love.

“God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4: 8b – 10)

*“Surely He has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed Him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all.”
(Isaiah 53: 4 – 6)*

Jesus Christ, the Creator of the universe, came down from heaven to be born of a virgin, fully God and fully man. He lived a sinless life and satisfied the righteous requirement of the law that you have broken, so that He could take your place on the cross as the perfect sacrifice. On that cross, the Creator died for His creation. On that cross, Jesus suffered the wrath of God that you deserve for your sins, satisfying the justice of God. On that cross, a legal transaction occurred. Your shameful sins were credited to His account and He paid for them in full with His life’s blood. At the same time, His perfect righteousness was credited to you so that you could have peace with God. Then on the third day, God the Father raised Him from the dead (Acts 5: 30). On the third day, the Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead (Romans 8: 11). On the third

day, He rose Himself from the dead (John 2: 19 – 21, 10: 17 – 18), defeating death and later ascended to Heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father.⁵

Please take a moment to think about the countless times you have broken God's Law including all of your secret sins that would overwhelm you with shame if they were exposed. Now think about the wrath of God that you deserve to suffer in hell for eternity. Realize that you are spiritually dead, incapable of saving yourself, and in your own strength without hope. This is the dark background that magnifies the love of God. The stark contrast between our total depravity, and God's mercy and grace that was expressed on the cross allows us to see the unimaginable brilliance of the love of God, just like the darkness of the night sky allows us to see the brilliance of the stars.⁶

Jesus loves you so much that He took upon Himself all of your shameful sins and suffered God's eternal wrath in your place. If it hasn't already, His infinite love for you should move you to love Jesus more than anything in the universe, even more than your own life, and hate all of your sins that put Him on the cross. Yes you are guilty. Yes you deserve an eternity in hell. But let His infinite kindness lead you to repentance and faith in Him. Throw yourself at His mercy. Confess your sins to Him and apologize for offending Him. Ask Him to forgive you for all of your sins. Turn away from your sins, repent of both your sins and of trusting in your good works. Trust in the work of Jesus Christ alone for your salvation and He will forgive your sins and save you from the eternity in hell that you deserve.

Salvation is an amazing gift of God. He didn't have to send us a Savior. If He would have decided to send all of us to hell, God would still have been a loving and good God. In the end, justice would have been done and we would only have gotten what we deserve. But thankfully God is love and decided to express His love for us by giving us undeserved mercy and grace. Ephesians 2: 1 – 8 clearly describes our salvation.

"You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your

⁵ Adapted from Paul Washer's "Death Sermon Jam" (www.youtube.com)

⁶ Adapted from Paul Washer's True Gospel Sermon Series

own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
(Ephesians 2: 1 – 8)(Emphasis added)

Salvation is a purely supernatural act of God. We were spiritually dead, incapable of even calling out to God for help. God alone acts to save sinners. God alone rescues us from our sins and from the eternity in hell that we deserve. It is God's supreme display of His love for us. If He hadn't given us spiritual life, making us born again (regeneration) (Ephesians 2: 4 – 5, John 5:24-25), and drawn us to Christ (John 6: 44), we could not have even believed the gospel (1 Corinthians 1: 18) let alone have saving faith and repent of our sins. It is God's saving work alone and Christ's righteousness alone imputed to us that make us righteous before God. The salvation that God has provided gives us His amazing grace that we do not deserve, and gives God all of the glory.

Sola Scriptura

We learn about this amazing salvation and live our lives by scripture alone.

*"The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;"*
(Psalm 19:7)

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work."
(2 Timothy 3:14-17)(Emphasis added)

Sola Fide

We are saved through faith alone.

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."
(Romans 5:1-2)

Sola Gratia

We are saved by grace alone.

“He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

(Titus 3:5 – 7)

“But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.”

(Romans 5:15)

Solo Christo

We are saved in Christ alone.

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

(Acts 4:12)

“For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.”

(1Timothy 2:5-6)

Soli Deo Gloria

We are saved and live for the glory of God alone.

*“Sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Tell of His salvation from day to day.
Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and He is to be held in awe above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
Splendor and majesty are before Him;
strength and joy are in His place.*

*Ascribe to the LORD, O clans of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
bring an offering and come before him!
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness,
tremble before Him, all the earth;
yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"
(1 Chronicles 16:23-31)*

*"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are
His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!
"For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been His counselor?"
'Or who has given a gift to Him
that He might be repaid?'
For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory
forever. Amen."
(Romans 11:33-36)*

*"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."
(1 Corinthians 10: 31)*

This God glorifying salvation is more than enough to show us God's attribute of love, but God does not stop there. He continues to lavish on us gift after undeserved gift. He not only forgives us of our sins and saves us from the just punishment that we deserve; He clothes us with Jesus' righteousness (Romans 5:17) and adopts us as His Children. This makes us heirs of His Kingdom (Galatians 4: 4 – 7) and transforms our relationship where God literally becomes our loving Father and friend. Through Jesus we have become children of God and as a result, we have direct access to the Father in prayer (Hebrews 4: 15 – 16). The intimacy and depth of this loving relationship is seen in the fact that at the point of salvation God indwells us with His Holy Spirit.

"Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." (John 14: 23)

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our

hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God." (Galatians 4: 4 – 7)

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?" (1 Corinthians 6: 19a)

God gives us His Holy Spirit to seal us for salvation (Ephesians 1: 13, 4: 30), comfort us with His love and care (Acts 9: 31), enlighten us with His truth (John 14: 26), and to begin the process of sanctification (Titus 3: 5, 1 Corinthians 6: 11). This is the process where God progressively purifies us, day after day taking sins out of our life, leading us to a life of repentance and faith where God progressively transforms us into the image of His Son (Romans 8: 29). During this process, God produces in us the fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control (Galatians 5: 22 – 23). And if that wasn't enough, God gives us a new family, countless brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers united together as His people, His Church, the body of Christ, united by one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4: 4 – 6) Together He has made us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that we may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2: 9 – 10). Together He has loved us by giving us an eternal purpose in this life, to glorify God in all that we do (1 Corinthians 10: 31) and to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18 – 20).

It was this love that transformed the disciples from the cowards who denied Jesus when the soldiers came to arrest Him, to the fearless apostles who boldly proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ until all except one suffered a martyr's death. It is this same love that still enraptures the hearts of men and women today to the point of being willing to preach the gospel for the glory of God in countries like Iran and North Korea where to be caught preaching the gospel results in certain death. And if you haven't done so already, it is this same love that should move you to love Jesus more than anything in the universe, including your own life; and to hate and wage war on your sins that put Jesus on the cross. Yes you are guilty and yes you deserve an eternity in hell, but let Jesus' infinite kindness and amazing love lead you to repentance and faith in Him.

It is also this same love of God expressed to us through the gospel of Jesus Christ that humbles us, focuses us on His glory, and fuels the fire of our passion to live by His Word and carry out the Great Commission which includes providing a Biblical education for our children.