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## **By the Mercies of God**

WOW Retreat – Part 3

Winter Retreat 2008

**God always \_\_\_\_\_**

*“We love Him because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19*

**Who’s Chasing Who?** See Genesis 3

God is the \_\_\_\_\_, we are the \_\_\_\_\_

**The Man and His Treasure** – See Matthew 13:44-46

*“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich” 2 Corinthians 8:9*

*“who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.” Philippians 2:6-7*

**He is the \_\_\_\_\_, you are the \_\_\_\_\_**

See also Luke 15

**God’s pursuit of us is \_\_\_\_\_**

## ***Why would God even care about us?***

*"When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" Psalm 8:3-4*

**God wants \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_**

**Holiness is not what God wants \_\_\_\_\_ us, but rather \_\_\_\_\_ us**

*"For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit"*  
Titus 3:3-5

*"Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you." Exodus 31:13*

*"And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I am the LORD who sanctifies you." Leviticus 20:8*

*"I am the LORD who sanctifies you, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God" Leviticus 22:32-33*

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9*

## The Prodigal What – See Luke 15

prodigal = “exceedingly or recklessly wasteful” or “lavish”

**The Father is prodigal with his \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!” 1 John 3:1*

*“The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing” Zephaniah 3:17*

*“that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge” Ephesians 3:17-19*

***Now that we know our worth to our Father,  
what is our Father worth to you?***

### The Love of God, by Frederick Lehman

Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade;  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky.