God is LOVING...

(God Is ____ Series, Part 2)
A Lord's Flock Worship Service Topic
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Jesus asked his disciples, "But who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:29). The most common answer to this question is "God is LOVE."

1. The LIVING HEART OF GOD.

In 1996, a piece of host was found in a candle holder in a church in Buenos Aires. As part of church procedure, the host was dissolved in holy water. After a few days, the host became flesh as reported by the priest to Bishop Jorge Bergoglio who directed him to have it investigated.

An atheist doctor found out the flesh was part of a human heart (left ventricle) that suffered trauma. Moreover, the presence of white blood cells, proved it was still alive. Realizing the flesh was a sacred host, the doctor became a Catholic. Hence, the host illustrates the living heart of God.



2. HUMAN LOVE needs purification.

Love is a gift from the Lord; hence, it is good. However, human love is sometimes driven by selfish motivations, passions and emotions. Jesus showed us to be self-giving because human love only becomes pure and true by selfless sacrifice.

3. GOD's LOVE purifies through the cross.

Jesus is the personification of God, but He is also human. Jesus transcended human love to a more profound one by offering His life (self-sacrifice) on the cross.

4. The Biblical Concept of Love is SACRIFICIAL & TRANSFORMATIVE.

- 4.1. Love brings change to the person being loved. God sent prophets to transform the people of Israel who kept disobeying Him.
- 4.2. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is transformative to bring the people to God.
- 4.3. The apostles were not perfect, but when they saw the risen Lord, they became bolder (fervent) in evangelizing the Gospel to the world. They were the greatest witnesses of Christ and the foundation of the church.
- 4.4. People who have been transformed give themselves for the love of God; they sacrifice and become agents of change.

5. The LOVING HEART of GOD is defined by three points.

- 5.1. God's love is FIDELITY. He is faithful.
- 5.2. God is JUST. A person who loves would want the best for the other person. Transformation is equated to being just.
- 5.3. God's love is SACRIFICE. Let us imitate Jesus by doing daily service, self-giving and offering little sacrifices for our Brothers and Sisters.

Conclusion: Imitating Jesus' love means we become more like Him. Let love shine forth through little and big actions. As we struggle every day, let us try to become living bearers of God's love.

Reflection:

- 1. How do you identify with God in terms of your relationship with Him?
- 2. How can you show your self-giving love for others?

Scribes Ministry:

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