

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

June 17, 2025 – Jesus, Our Magnificent Obsession – Erlinda Cruz

Jesus, a Bridegroom with a Burning Heart of Love

The Nature of God: Love

The nature of God is love. Love by definition is relational. We can only properly understand God's eternal purposes and how He views us in the context of a "relational paradigm of God."

16God is love, and he who abides in [lives in] love abides in God, and God in him. (1 Jn. 4:16)

The nature of God's kingdom is love—in deep relationship and partnership with Jesus.

God dwells forever in a deeply satisfying relationship of love in the fellowship of the Trinity. The Son loves the Father and the Father loves the Son (Jn. 3:35; 5:20; 14:31). They deeply delight in using their authority to freely serve and honor each other (Jn. 5:23; 8:49-54; 12:26; 13:31-32; 14:12; 17:1, 4-5, 22, 24). Each is equally yoked in mutual love and wholehearted commitment. They are each fully involved, fully focused, and fully committed to one another.

20The Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does... (Jn. 5:20)

31I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. (Jn. 14:31)

Love is God's eternal nature and personality. It is not something He does, but it is something that He is. He is an eternal overflowing fountain of desire for His people. Desire implies want, but not lack. God desires to share the joy of His love. Love must have an expression to be love.

Jesus' love and desire for us is infinite in measure and eternal in duration. He always loves effortlessly and in fullness. He never grows in love nor diminishes in it when He gives it away. It is sustained forever with intensity. His love is like a volcanic explosion of holy desire.

We were created in God's likeness for the purpose of relating to God. God designed the human spirit for partnership with Himself because He had plans to share so much with us forever.

26God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over...all the earth..." (Gen. 1:26)

1. That God created us in His likeness gives us insight into His eternal nature. We were not created in the likeness of the angels who only serve God (Heb. 1:14).

2. We were created in God's image to be loved and to love. The capacity to deeply love is unique to the human spirit, because we are created in the image of the God who is love.

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

June 17, 2025 – Jesus, Our Magnificent Obsession – Erlinda Cruz

The reason we enjoy being loved and loving is because we were made in the image of God, who enjoys loving and being loved.

3. God created the human spirit with a longing for the assurance that God enjoys us and for deep partnership with God. These cravings were strategically given to us by God. They will never leave.

Prayer:

Father we are created for You, by You in You.

Amazing how we are built to relate to you... to long for Your love...

To enjoy being love... our hearts long for You and cry to be with You...