

The Makings of a Great Valentine **Isaiah 54:10**

It's **Valentine's Day!!!** Hopefully that didn't take anyone by surprise!
I know not everyone observes this holiday, but it is a great opportunity to tell/remind that special someone in your life how much you love them!

If this is a day you recognize, I would normally say, "Don't wait until the day of to put a plan together", but if you're here & unprepared, let me help!

Here are 4 steps to giving a great valentine to the person you love:

- **The 1st step in sending a great valentine is to choose the right recipient!**
Sometimes the obvious person is the right person!
Other times, it's the unexpected recipient that makes the best valentine!

So...who is that special someone in your life (spouse, date, parent/child, friend, etc.)

- **The 2nd step in sending a great valentine is choosing the right words!**

The right word(s) can have a powerful effect in communicating what our heart feels & what our mind knows to be true about that special person.

This past week I asked on social media to share one word that best describes the love that special someone has shown to you. Check it out!

You don't have to write a book to your valentine, but hopefully what you do say in one, or a few words, will communicate volumes!

- **The 3rd step in sending a great valentine is to paint a beautiful picture!**

You don't have to be an artist, but creating a picture through images or words is a very powerful communicator of our love and affection!

If you are not giving real flowers, then an image of a rose on a card, or a description of a flower in a poem, shows them what your words convey!

Ex: **"If I had a single flower for every time I think about you, I could walk forever in my garden."** – Claudia Adrienne Grandi The power of a picture!

- **The 4th step in sending a great valentine is backing your words w/ action!**

Sometimes a clean house communicates more love than words & flowers!

"Love is a verb!" A great valentine is one lived out 365 days a year!

What does this have to do with our Scripture today? **Isaiah 54:10, is a great valentine from God! "For the mountains may depart & the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the Lord who has compassion on you."**

These words are from old, but they were not new back then, nor are they out of date today! God, from eternity past planned out His love story & is still carrying it out to completion with His people today!

- **This is a great valentine because of all who are the recipients of it!**

It started with Abraham & his descendants, but now all who put their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior are the recipients of this - God's love & promise!

- **This is a great valentine because God choose the very best words!**

"steadfast" – What word could better describe God's love for His people?

"covenant of peace" – Words that truly give hope & bring life to the soul!

Words are so powerful! That's why I changed the lyrics to the song we sang! It was only one word, but this one word gives definition to God's love!

- **Reckless vs. Relentless** Look at the Wordle again - what's missing?

- **This is a great valentine because God paints a beautiful picture for us of His love - using metaphors!**

"For the mountains may depart... but my steadfast love will not depart from you." What image could be more steadfast in all creation than a mountain? But God says they will get up and leave before He ever will!

"the hills will be removed... and my covenant of peace shall not be removed." When considering the permanence of God's covenant promises, they are more secure than the very foundations of the earth! What a beautiful picture God paints for us of His love and promises!

- **This is a great valentine from God b/c His words always take action!**

The one who spoke these words is **"Lord who has compassion on you."** Even in exile - a remnant remained, the return certain, the covenant secure.

& that's just a small chapter in the book of God's compassion & love for us! For Christ had not yet come - pinnacle of God's Word, the perfect picture of God's promise, & the embodiment of God's action! **Jesus is God's greatest valentine!**

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" _____ " – What word could better describe God's love for His people?

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- _____ vs. _____ Look at the Wordle again - what's missing?

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