**The Prayer Covenant:   
Following Jesus Together**

**“Love”**

Luke 9:23; 2 Chronicles 15:12

***Luke 9:23*** *Then He said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.*

***2 Chronicles 15:12*** *They entered into a covenant to seek the Lord, the God of their ancestors, with all their heart and soul.*

(pray the prayer together)

*Ephesians 2: 4*

**Grace - Dear Father, Thank you for Your grace that has made me one of Your dearly loved children.**

**Love: By your grace make knowing, loving and obeying you my highest priority.**

See how the second line is dependent on the first?

**1. Love: By your grace make**

Grace is unmerited favor, gift, joy, power of God.

**2. Love: By your grace make knowing,**

*John 17:3 Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.*

*Phil 3:10-12 I want to know Christ*

**How can we know God?**

1) General revelation Rom 1:18-23

2) Specific revelation

a. incarnation of God the Son, Jesus Christ

*John 1:14; John 14:8 – 10; Phil 2:6-8; Col 1:15;*

*Phil 3:10 – 12 I want to know Christ*

*b. Scripture 2Tim 3:15-17*

c. The Church *1Cor 12:7, 27*

**3. Love: By your grace make knowing, loving** *Mt 22:36 - 38*

*Love the Lord your God …* with all of who you are. (highest priority)

In Israel the Jews have on their door post a mezuzah containing a piece of parchment (often contained in a decorative case) inscribed with specified Hebrew verses from the Torah (Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21). Reminder to love God!

**4. Love: By your grace make knowing, loving and obeying**

If you love Him, really love Him, then you will obey Him.

Mt 28:19- 20 The Great Commission …*teach them to obey*… discipleship

John 14:21 “Whoever has my commands **and** keeps them (obeys them) is the one who loves Me. The one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love them and show Myself to them.”

**5.** **knowing, loving and obeying YOU = relationship with GOD**

Not the church, not tradition, not other people’s expectations. This is a personal relationship with our *Gracious Father.*

**6. Love: By your grace make knowing, loving and obeying**

**You my highest priority.**

Tell the story of Oswald Chambers life.

It takes me a long while to realize

that God has no respect for anything

I bring Him. All He wants from me

is unconditional surrender.

– Oswald Chambers,   
 *My Utmost for His Highest*