Many of us think of February as the month of hearts...the month of love. The heart of any person is a picture of what that person is like. The heart is the center. Of other things we use phrases such as 'the heart of the home', 'the heart of the matter', or 'the heart of the company'. The Bible says that out of our heart (the center of our beings) all kinds of things proceed or come. Good and bad!

When we think of the person of God, what about His heart? If we grew up thinking of God only as a stern ruler, an unkind judge, a watchdog with a bite...then we have a very wrong view of the heart of God. While He does want us to live pure and clean lives, this speaks of His heart for our peace and safety and contentment and joy as we live life. A purposeful life. The Bible reveals the heart of God because while God used people to write, He gave them what to write. When we read the words saying, "His love endures forever...I am with you even to white hair...I will never leave you or forsake you...I will keep you and bless you", we are seeing the heart of God.

His love is not the flimsy love message on a valentine card, but love coming from His heart that is steady and strong and faithful and reaches out continually to every person. It is the same kind of love He wants us to have in our hearts, the center of our being, so that others around us may be encouraged and cheered on in our broken world.

<u>Prayer:</u> Father, show me the fullness of your love for me and for people in our present world. Forgive me for doubting your love for me. Forgive me for not trusting that your love is greater than human love that has sometimes failed me just as my own human love for you and for others failed during some hard or selfish times. Fill my spirit today with love for You...the real thing, and also for people in my circle I find difficult to love. Fill my heart with love for every person today with whom I will share and speak and serve. Help me to love those I serve. Being human, I cannot perfect this in my life, but you can and I am asking you to do this for your own glory. Amen

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