



# THANKS A MILLION

Theme Resource Pack  
February 2025  
(2 February - 1 March)

## Introduction

*In the beginning was the Word. Then there was light and dark. That's two more words. And then the words just kept coming and coming...*

This month we are turning our eyes to heaven and shouting out: Thanks a million!

Thanks for loving us and for going on loving us!

Thank you for showing us what love is and what love can do.

Thank you for coming among us, Emmanuel — God With Us — to embody the timeless power of love.

Thank you for the love that inspires us, rewards us and sustains us through all the world throws at us!

Thank you God!

Thanks a million!

## Weekly Overview

- Week 1: Thank you for inspiring love
- Week 2: Thank you for rewarding love
- Week 3: Thank you for sustaining love
- Week 4: Thank you for powerful love.

## Format

Every month we have a God-given theme delving into different aspects and areas of faith. Our themes shape our Daily Worship, live streams and all sorts of other creative things we get up to! Each week runs Sunday - Saturday and each has a series of daily Bible readings and prompts for reflection.

# Thank you for inspiring love (Week 1, 2 February)

**Introduction:** We are only able to love because God first loved us — loved us into our very being! Thank you God for making us in your image and imbuing us with all the divine love you have invested in us! May your love inspire us on and on to love.

**Setting the scene:** The young Jeremiah pacing up and down as God calls him.

**Seeds to sow:** What stories, songs, and images inspire you to love others?

1. **1 John 4: 7-21 Thank you for loving us.** We love because he first loved us. Thank you for investing us with this much love!
2. **Jeremiah 1: 4-10 Thank you for attentive love.** God knows Jeremiah, knew him before he knew himself, and is sensitive to his insecurities and concerns. God attends to us like this too!
3. **1 Corinthians 13:1-3 Thank you for love that makes the difference!** It is always love that makes the difference! It is all too easy to do good things for bad reasons. Let love guide us in everything.
4. **1 Corinthians 13: 4-6 Thank you for patient love.** The forbearance of love that allows us to thrive.
5. **1 Corinthians 13: 7-8 Thank you for enduring love.** Unlimited, unrequited, unstoppable.
6. **1 Corinthians 13: 9-12 Thank you for mystical love.** Your love does not require us to grasp the mysteries of the universe, it's not a secret to uncover, or a puzzle to decode. But these beautiful enigmatic verses tell us there's also no ceiling on love, there's a cosmic picture we cannot grasp completely but will unfold eternally. One we can go on growing into...
7. **1 Corinthians 13: 13 Thank you for inspiring love!** When it comes right down to it: thanks a million! Love is so inspiring it's not hard to think of 28 types of love for this theme and in fact we could keep going, every day of our lives uncovering more of God's faithful hopeful love.

## Thank you for rewarding love (Week 2, 9 February)

**Introduction:** God's love, simultaneously huge, vast, unfathomable and sensitive, personalised, and caring — is incredibly rewarding. It doesn't reward the way a high paying job advert might claim. There's no annual bonus or access to an influential VIP circle. The salary is zero and no velvet ropes are going to be lifted aside. But here's the thing: you're already a VIP and all the riches in the world can't compare to the rewards of God's eternal love...

**Setting the scene:** Nets bursting with all kinds of fish.

**Seeds to sow:** When is God's love surprising?

- 1. Ephesians 1: 3-14 Thank you for redeeming love.** God loves us with a calling, redeeming love that calls us out of ourselves, out of who we want to leave behind so that we can be called on to who we actually are...
- 2. Psalm 138 Thank you for enduring love.** Giving thanks with our whole heart.
- 3. 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Thank you for gracious love.** As God is gracious to Paul, God is gracious to each of us regardless of our backstory. By the grace of God the rest of our chapters are unwritten, fresh with possibility.
- 4. Luke 5: 1-3 Thank you for observant love.** Jesus clocks the boat and clocks an opportunity.
- 5. Luke 5: 4-6 Thank you for unexpected love.** Love is surprising! One of the ironies of love is that steady, constant love is not static and dull but constantly full of surprises as we lean into a rewarding life of love and surprise.
- 6. Luke 5: 7-10 Thank you for kind love.** Just picture Jesus smiling at Simon Peter. Picture the fondness in his eyes. Now realise he looks at you the same way.
- 7. Luke 5: 11 Thank you for enthusiastic love.** It's the best catch of their lives and they leave it all behind... The rewarding love of God is much bigger and deeper than a big haul of fish.

# Thank you for sustaining love (Week 3, 16 February)

**Introduction:** We are never forgotten, cast aside or diminished by God. Love always notices, cherishes and builds up. God does not promise us lives free from pain or adversity, what God does promise is endless love throughout everything.

**Setting the scene:** The ancient roots of a Giant Sequoia redwood tree.

**Seeds to sow:** What are our roots? What roots us?

1. **Jeremiah 17: 5-10 Thank you for rooted love.** In God we don't have a rootless love, we have a rooted love! What's the difference between a rooted and an unrooted love?
2. **Psalm 1 Thank you for fresh love.** True love is not stagnant, it is fresh and new each day sustaining us.
3. **Luke 6: 17-19 Thanks you for restoring love.** In the Gospels Jesus models a love that finds healing and wholeness.
4. **Luke 6: 20 Thank you for priceless love.** There is no fee for the kingdom, it is priceless. (The issues actually come when we try to buy our way in, see verses 24-26.)
5. **Luke 6: 21 Thank you for sustaining love.** Our hunger and our tears don't go unnoticed. Christ hungers and weeps with us, never abandoning us.
6. **Luke 6: 22 Thank you for determined love.** Jesus notices, acknowledges and cherishes the commitment we make to determinedly love him and one another.
7. **Luke 6: 23 Thank you for fulfilling love.** On the biggest canvas possible — eternity — the love of God is fulfilling!

## Thank you for powerful love (Week 4, 23 February)

**Introduction:** Faster than a freight train, as immovable as a mountain, bigger than the moon but able to fit in the tiniest gaps. It's love. The most powerful force in the universe.

**Setting the scene:** You are more than dust — you're gold dust!

**Seeds to sow:** What local, national and international projects can we support that champion reconciliation, peace and grace?

1. **Genesis 45: 1-15 Thank you for forgiving love.** None of us get through the year, through the week, through the day — without the power of love's forgiveness — beautifully depicted here.
2. **1 Corinthians 15: 47-50 Thank you for heavenly love.** The dust of heaven meets the dust of humanity in the love that transforms us.
3. **Luke 6: 27-28 Thank you for the power to love my enemy.** The ability to love our enemies is something we are able to do through the power of God's love. It's one of the strongest counter-cultural forces in the world.
4. **Luke 6: 29-30 Thank you for graceful love.** The tremendous power and grace it takes to go on loving in the face of such unfairness and rejection.
5. **Luke 6: 31-35 Thank you for selfless love.** God's selfless love for us is a powerful inspiration for us to imitate that love in our lives — not just when it's convenient.
6. **Luke 6: 36 Thank you for merciful love.** Mercy is an incredibly powerful force. Just as the moon reflects the light from the sun, we can reflect God's mercy to those around us.
7. **Luke 6: 37-38 Thank you for openhearted love.** It is the great irony of love that when we love openly, with no expectation of return, we can find ourselves blessed anyway — but not in the narrow ways we might plan, but in beautiful, expansive ways.