John 3:16-18

Question: why do God our Heavenly Father loves us so?

When God sent His Son into the world, He was not having an emotional response to the tragedy of sin. Which occurred in the beginning," God had already made up His mind that sin would be dealt with through the work of His son, Jesus Christ. Matthew 16:21

The Son did not become the Savior in reaction to Adam's sinning, He was already Savior before the world began. John 1:1, Romans. 5:8

From all eternity, God's intention has been to save the world. Hebrews 4:3, Revelation 13:8

So the truth of Christ's sacrifice had to be made visible in the world. In making visible the plan of salvation, God voluntarily placed His Son in the body of a man. Philippians 2:5-8, John 1:10-14

When we think too highly of ourselves and too lowly of God, we lose the true meaning why the God who is absolutely holy would love sinners like us enough to send His only Son to die to redeem us.

<u>Galatians. 2:20; 1 Timothy. 1:15</u>

Jesus often refers to Himself as the Son of Man (3:15), but never as God's "only begotten Son," Jesus does not normally refer to God as "God," but rather as "the Father" John 17: 1-5, 24-26.

God's love for this sinful world

The Jews knew that they were God's chosen people and that He had set His special love on them Deuteronomy. 7:6-8; 10:14-15; Malachi1:2-3

Even though the self-righteous Pharisees thought that they were above common sinners they might have agreed that God loved even sinful Jews. John 9:34,

John wants us to understand that God's love goes beyond the Jews to Gentiles from <u>1 John 5:19</u>, Romans 1:16-17. Revelation. <u>5:9</u>

God's love extends even to those who are His committed enemies Matthew. 5:43-45; Romans. 5:6-8,10.

God in a real and sincere sense hates the wicked because of their sin; yet in a real and sincere sense He also has compassion, pity, patience, and true affection for them because of His own loving nature." 2 Peter 3:9

We can tell unbelievers that God loves them so much that He sent His only Son to die for their sins, if they will repent and believe in Christ. At the same time we should warn them that if they do not believe in Christ, they are under God's righteous judgment and wrath (<u>John 3:18, 3</u>

We know that no one are able to repent and believe in Christ unless God grants it John 6:44, 65;

We should be praying as we proclaim the gospel that God would be merciful in opening their blind eyes and imparting new life to them so that they can repent and believe. John 9:41, 2 Corinthians 4:4

God did not send His unique "only begotten" Son into the world so that He could just teach us about how to live rightly. God sent His only Son to die because that was the only way that He could uphold His holiness and justice and at the same time forgive sinners. 1Peter 2:20-21

Sometimes people ask, "Why can't God just forgive us apart from the death of Christ? The answer is, because God is absolutely holy and just. <u>1Peter 1:9</u>

God's love does not eradicate or do away with the reality of hell. If Jesus' words are true, and we know they are hell is real and it is awful (Mark 9:47-48)

In the same way, many say that they believe in Jesus, but they have not committed their eternal destiny to what He did for them on the cross. Mark 8:36