

The LORD passed before Moses and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and **abounding** in \_\_\_\_\_ and faithfulness..." (Exodus 34:6)

Steadfast love wants what is best for others, always. It's enduring commitment. It's selfless loyalty that keeps its promises. One of the best examples of steadfast love in all of the Bible is Ruth in her relationship with her mother-in-law, Naomi (Ruth 1:8).

But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where go \_\_\_\_\_ will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but \_\_\_\_\_ parts me from you." (Ruth 1:16-17)

And God? What is he like? He "abounds" or overflows with steadfast love. Throughout Psalm 136, 26 times the psalmist tells us:

...for his steadfast love \_\_\_\_\_\_ forever.

Throughout the Psalms, this truth is repeated over and over again.

He loves righteousness and justice;

the \_\_\_\_\_\_ is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. (Psa 33:5)

When we don't follow God's lead? When steadfast love is missing from our lives? God calls us out (Hosea 4:1-3; 6:4-6). That's not life the way he meant it to be!

But he hasn't just told us what to do. He's SHOWN us. Nowhere do we see more clearly the abounding, steadfast love of God than in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:14-19).

What is God like? He overflows with loyal love.



## **FOUNDATION STONES**

Exodus 34:6 would be a really good verse to memorize this month. What is God like?



The LORD passed before Moses and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and **abounding** in **steadfast love** and faithfulness..."

Ruth was mentioned in our video as a good example of "steadfast love." Can you think of any other examples from the Bible where someone was selfless, loyal, and loving to another person?

Do you remember the story of David's best friend? His name was Jonathan. Jonathan was King's Saul's son, and Saul DIDN'T like David. He was jealous and wanted to hurt David. But Jonathan did the right thing. He showed David "steadfast love" (I Samuel 20:12-17). He was a great example of Proverbs 18:24: "There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." That's steadfast love!



We heard Psalm 33:5 in the video. "The **earth** is **full** of the steadfast love of the LORD." What about you? As you look around, where can you see God's loyal love for **YOU**? The more you look, the more you'll find!