Why this series?

The people around a king, a president or any other leader shape him in a thousand way. Sometimes for good. Sometimes for no good. I believe we can influence the royalty out of each other if we learn from the men and women who shaped Israel's great king, David.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

- 1. O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be.
- 2. O light that follows all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day May brighter, fairer be.
- 3. O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain, That morn shall tearless be.
- 4. O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be.

There's an incredible story behind that old song about God's unfailing love.

We all suffer sometime

When I read story behind this old song, one sentence struck me as especially important. Matheson said, "The hymn was the fruit of that suffering." All of us suffer some sort of heartbreak or disappointment or disability at some point in our lives. Can we still experience a love that will not let us go? Can we even be the source of that kind of unfailing love in our relationships?

The Source of Unfailing Love

God is the source of unfailing love. He sets the example of a love that will not let us go. But he also empowers his people to share the love that stands true no matter what the cost.

Ancient Song Writer's Verse

Psalm 33:22 NIV

May your unfailing love be with us, lord, even as we put our hope in you.

Ruth's Promise to Naomi

Ruth 1:16-17 NIV

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."

Sermon in a sentence:

When you are loved with unfailing love, you can love with unfailing love.

You're facing a decision.

Today and every day, you must decide if you will swim against the current of the heartbreak, disappointment and discouragement. The decision is yours.

Will you be a channel for God's unfailing love?

Will your love refuse to let go?

When you are loved with unfailing love, you can love with unfailing love. The decision is yours.

Will you receive God's love that will not let you go?

Will you put your hope in him?

Will you open your heart to the joy that seeks you out even in your pain? The decision is yours.

We live in culture that encourages us to seek happiness. We look for it in our families. We long to find it in our friendships. We dig deep to find it in our recreation and hobbies. But the harder we look for happiness the less we experience. However, when we seek to express unfailing love to our families and our friends we experience a profound sense of meaning. We discover our reason for being on the planet. We were created to receive God's unfailing love and share it with each other.

Let's Dream a Little

Let's dream about what our lives would be like if we asked God to give us the grace to express unfailing love. When you are loved with unfailing love, you can love with unfailing love. Can you imagine how our actions would be transformed by knowing deep in the center of our beings that God's love will not let us go? What if our deepest, darkest, most secret hurts felt the power of Jesus' love? What would we act like if we truly believed God loves us with a love that will not let us go? A love that seeks to give us joy in our pain?

I Am Loved I Can Risk Loving You

The Gaither Vocal Band singing

Watch (link to YouTube)

The decision is yours.

When you are loved with unfailing love, you can love with unfailing love.

"We are free to love each other, we are loved."

Will you thank God for his unfailing love and ask for the grace to express unfailing love in your relationships?

The decision is yours.