SHADOW SELF #5
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THE LIGHT OF LOVE = DEATH TO THE SHADOWS

"And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." ***Romans 5:5 NIV***

"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." ***Ephesians 3:17-19 NIV***

"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy," ***1 Peter 1:8 NIV***

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE IS AN _____ PROCESS (pouring)

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE IS AN _____ PROCESS (grasping)

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE IS AN _____ PROCESS (knowing)

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE IS AN _____ PROCESS (filling)

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE CAUSES A _____ (sensing)

BLOCKING THE LIGHT = SUSTAINING THE SHADOW

THE BLOCKER OF _____.

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," **the Lord answered,** ***"you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."*** ***Luke 10:38-42 NIV***

THE BLOCKER OF _____.

"Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again, he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. [10] Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, sir," she said.

"Neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." **John 8:7-11 NIV**

THE BLOCKER OF _____.

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ***"Quiet! Be still!"*** **Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.** **Mark 4:37-39 NIV**

THE BLOCKER OF _____.

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, *"Do you believe in the Son of Man?"*

"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

Jesus said, *"You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."* Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, *"For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."*

Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" Jesus said, *"If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."* *John 9:35-41 NIV*

"But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."* *James 4:6 NIV

RELEASING THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE = DECREASING THE SHADOW

"If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." *1 John 4:15-16 NIV*

NEW _____ OF HIS LOVE.

"The Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God."* *John 16:27 NIV

NEW _____ ON HIS LOVE.

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."

John15:9-11 NIV

NEW _____ IN HIS LOVE.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35 NIV

FOR DISCUSSION:

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT GOD WANTS HIS LOVE TO MOVE FROM YOUR HEAD AND INTO YOUR HEART?

WHERE ARE YOU IN YOUR PROCESS OF EXPERIENCING THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE?

INFUSION → INTERNALIZING → INTIMACY → INVASION → SHIFT EMOTIONALLY

WHICH "BLOCKER" (S) PREVENT (S) YOU FROM FULLY EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE?

WHICH "KEY" TO UNLOCKING GOD'S LOVE MOST REPRESENTS AN ACTION STEP FOR YOU?

HOW DO YOU THINK A DEEPER EXPERIENCE WITH GOD'S LOVE WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE IN A PRACTICAL WAY? HOW AE YOU GOING TO SEEK MORE OF IT?