

A Writer Knows How Much God Loves Us

By Mark Littleton

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16, NIV)

John 3:16 is the granddaddy of all Bible verses about salvation. If you know only one verse in the Bible, chances are it's this one. But what does it really say? Several amazing things and several thoughts for writers.

God loves us. "God so loved the world ..." If there's ever any question about how God feels about you or anyone else, turn here. It's God's final answer on his attitude toward us. He loves you, your writing, and your desire to serve him, too.

God gave everything. "... that he gave his only begotten son ..." God sacrificed his most precious possession--his unique, one-of-a-kind son--to pay the penalty we all owe to him for our sins. Someone had to correct the problem of the evils of mankind; that's what Jesus did on the cross. He satisfied God's call for real justice. Through his act on the cross, you owe God only one thing: your acceptance of that gift, and faith in Christ. Use that faith to write great things about what he did for us.

God has made the way to heaven simple and clear. "... that whoever believes in him ..." All you need is faith. It's the universal equalizer. Anyone anywhere can exercise it at any time. What do you believe? That Jesus was God-incarnate. That he rose again. That he paid the price of your sins. As a writer that means you have the power to assure others in your writing that faith is not complicated, not difficult, not impossible.

God has offered us the greatest prize for our faith. "... should not perish but have eternal life." Eternal life. Not only a length of life, but a quality of life. Love, joy, peace, hope, friendship, goodness, kindness--forever! It's yours for the taking. As a writer, that means nothing you write is ever lost, or useless, or forgotten.

Could we honestly ask more from God than this?