

love

Introduction:

**You won't find GOD'S
definition of Agape in a
book; instead you'll see it
on a Cross.**

Text: John 3:16-17

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.

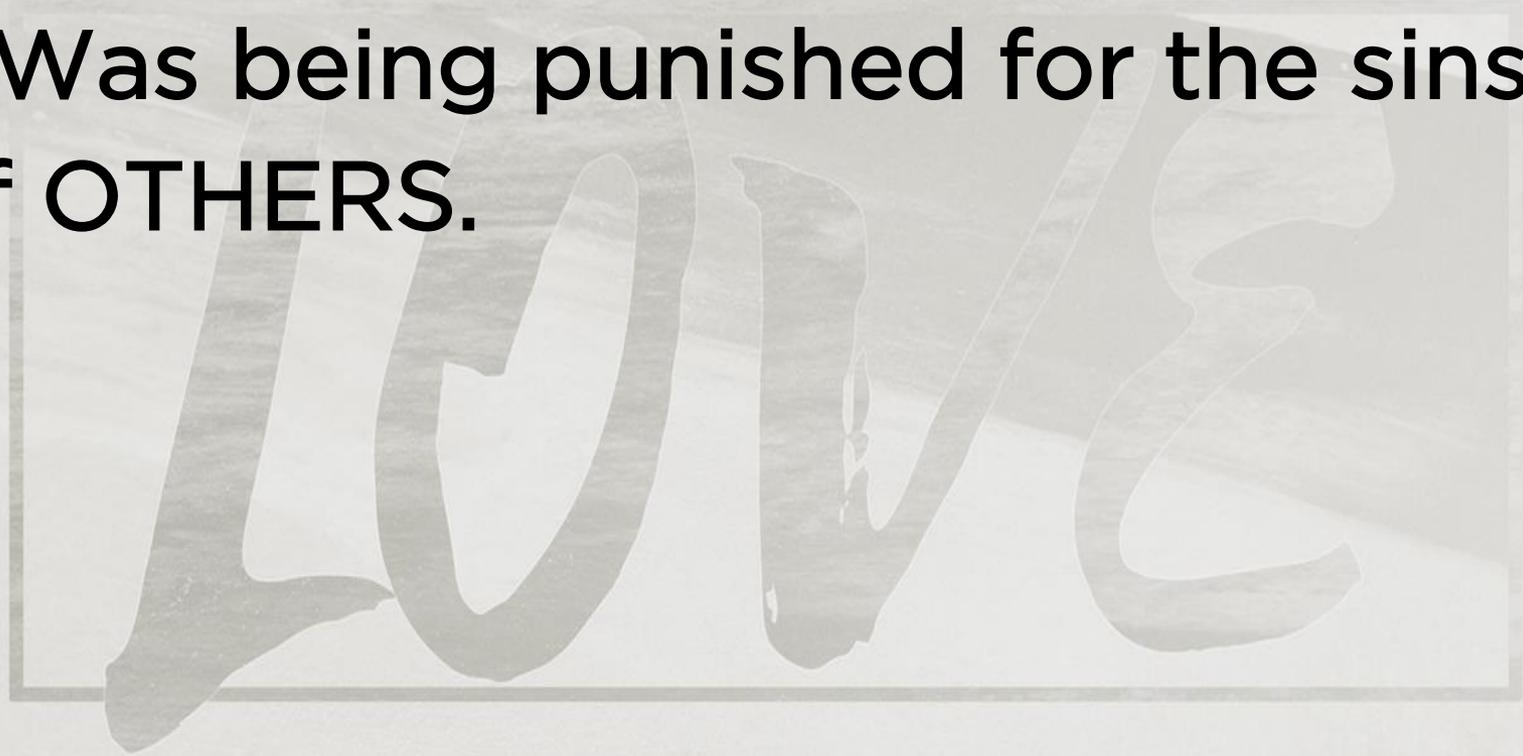
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Text: Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

At Calvary, Jesus:

- **Was being punished for the sins of OTHERS.**



At Calvary, Jesus:

- **Was HURTING as badly as a human being can HURT—in fact, more so. God can HURT worse than we can!**

At Calvary, Jesus:

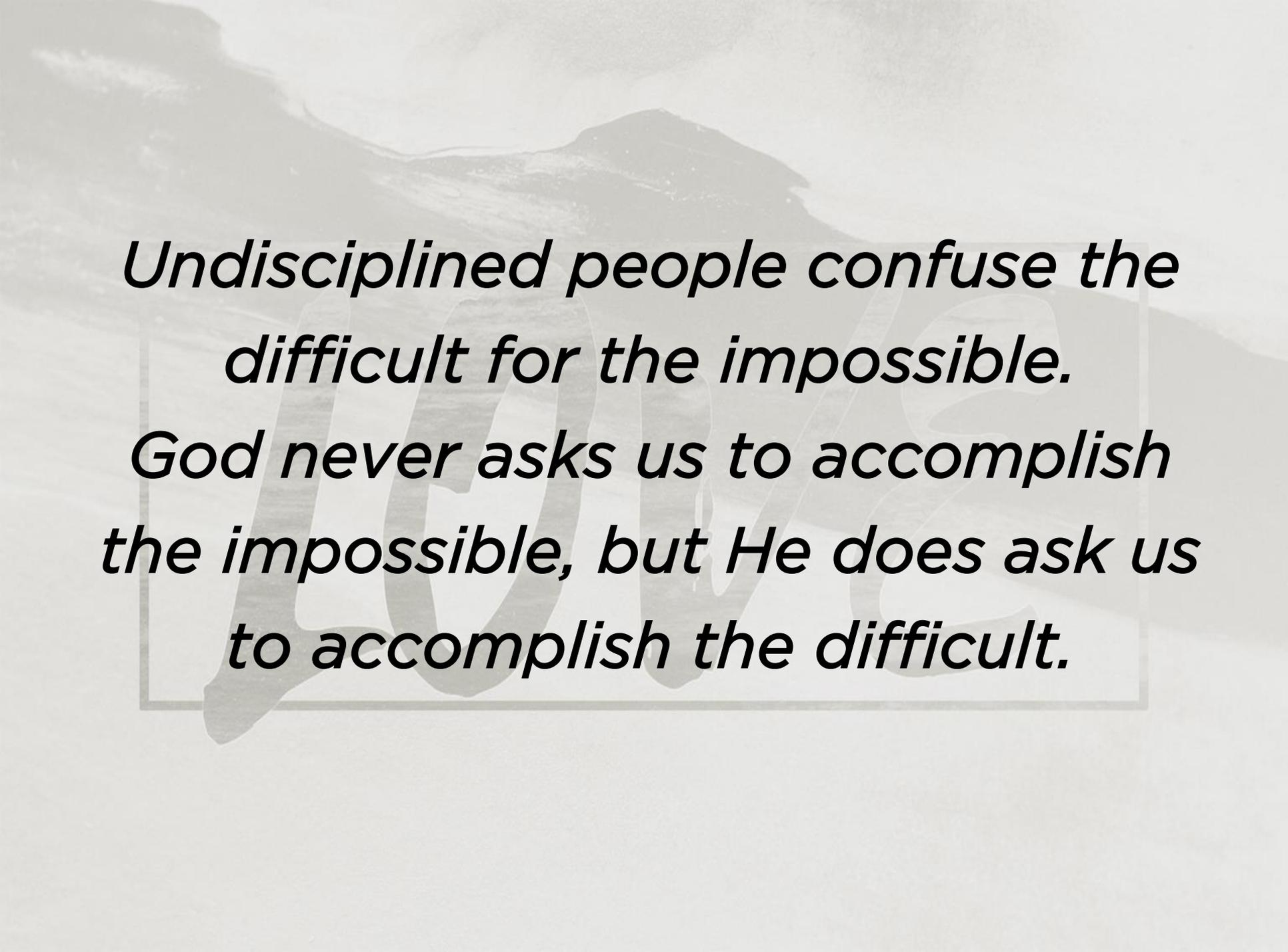
- **Didn't have to continue to HURT, but He still CHOSE to.**

Jesus made an intentional CHOICE
to sacrifice himself for a purpose:
our SALVATION.

LOVE

**Jesus' love at Calvary is exactly
the kind of love that can SAVE a
RELATIONSHIP.**

LOVE



*Undisciplined people confuse the
difficult for the impossible.*

*God never asks us to accomplish
the impossible, but He does ask us
to accomplish the difficult.*

Here's how you can act like Christ
in a painful or difficult
RELATIONSHIP:

- **HANG** in there, even if it is
painful right now.

Here's how you can act like Christ
in a painful or difficult
RELATIONSHIP:

- **HOPE** forward (Hebrews 12:1-3).
Begin to visualize how much
better it will eventually be!

Here's how you can act like Christ
in a painful or difficult
RELATIONSHIP:

- **FORGIVE.** They really don't know what they are doing, even if they think they do.

Here's how you can act like Christ
in a painful or difficult
RELATIONSHIP:

- **Seek FORGIVENESS.** Maybe you're also causing pain in this relationship.

DECISION POINTS

1. Do I truly understand how much of a price Christ paid to fix my relationship with HIM? Have I received His forgiveness and responded to Him with love?

DECISION POINTS

2. Am I willing to be Christ-like in my personal relationships, even if it means hanging on a cross for a while in my marriage, with another person in my family, or with a friend or coworker? Am I willing to take someone else off the cross I've nailed them to and stop making them suffer?

love