

Philippians 4:19 (NLT2)

And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

A man prayed to God, “God, if you love me, prove it to me by letting me win the Lotto.” God replied, “I will prove to you that I love you by not letting you win the Lotto.”

Some of you get it and some of you don't. But simply, God knows what we need and what we can handle, which means He also knows what we don't need and what we can't handle.

There may be those who could handle winning the Lotto and instantly having millions of dollars, because it won't affect their relationship with the Lord, and they will use it to further the Kingdom of God for the glory of God, as they use the money to help others. Whereas, others couldn't handle it, because it would draw them away from the Lord, and they would do very little, if anything for others, and they would live a paranoid life because of all that money.

But I don't think that most of us would pray for the Lord to allow us to win the Lotto. But how many have prayed the same thing, but replaced “winning the Lotto” for something else?

- God, if you love me, prove it to me by letting me date or marry that guy or girl.
- God, if you love me, prove it to me by letting me get that job or a better job.
- God, if you love me, prove it to me by having that money appear in the mailbox so that I can pay my bills.
- God, if you love me, prove it to me by letting me get that house or car that I want to buy.
- God, if You love me, prove it by healing this person.

We could go on and on with what we want the Lord to do for us to prove that He loves us. But the reality is that He has already proved His love for us.

† **Romans 5:8** *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

So, if you are honest, the reality is that you don't need God to prove that He loves you, but rather, you want to use His love as a means to get what you want. But what if the Lord turned it around on you and wanted to ask you to prove that you love Him. What do you think He would ask?

- If you love Me, then go to a third world country and share the gospel.
- If you love Me, then give all your money away to those in need.
- If you love Me, then go to church every Sunday.
- If you love Me, then read your bible everyday.

No, God does not ask us to do those things to prove our love for Him, but He did make the statement of, ***“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”*** **John 14:15** Because, the truth is that God already knows if we truly love Him, because He is God and He knows all things and He even knows our own hearts better than we know them. But I believe Jesus said this so that we can truly see our own hearts, and if we truly do love Him.

I think that the Apostle John remembered these words of Jesus when he wrote.

† **1 John 2:3-5** *Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.*

So it's not, *“God if you love me...”* but rather, *“God, help me to love You more”* Which reminds me of a song I wrote, and the chorus is simply us singing to God/Jesus/Holy Spirit, these words. **“I love you so much; but not as much as You love me”**

† **1 John 3:3** *And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*