



Do You???

Do your eyes glaze over when you hear John 3 vs 16? Do you roll your inner eyes? (You didn't think anybody knew you had those, right?)

Many Christians that have grown up in Christian homes have heard SO many times that "God so loved the world and sent his only begotten son that whosoever shall believe in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

In fact there are so many Scriptures that can roll off your tongue, ingrained in your memory from hours spent in church, waiting for mum who is in the women's committee meeting, or recited over and over in Sunday school.

You are a good person, you know some of His word, you do good by people, you know exactly what to say when someone is hurting or in need ... but nobody knows that you do not really believe that God loves you.

You're young, you're hip, and yes you do believe in God. You believe He exists, you believe He is good. You believe He is there. But you don't really believe He loves you.

Maybe you do, but you believe that He has to. He created you after all didn't He?

Christianity may be something that you 'inherited'. Your parents were Christians, you grew up Christian, so it was inevitable. You may have had your little spell of rebellion but that has passed now and being in His fold is so much better than running around in darkness.

Does He really love you? Does he even ... like you?

Subconsciously, "God so loved the world" sounds to me like His love is blanketed over everyone, a cookie cutter sort of love. Does He love ME? I don't think I fit into the cookie cutter. I'm stubborn, like to go my own way, I'm not an overly spiritual Christian and have often experienced God in the most 'unchristian' ways and places. I get angry at Him, I shake my fists at Him.

I don't understand Him, His timing, I have a hard time just accepting that that is just how it is.

Does He understand what it is like to be a young woman in this day and age? To want a family and have a successful career at the same time? Where is He when it seems that the only way to get ahead is to be shallow? Does He care that I am trying hard not to conform but sometimes I just don't know how?

Does He love me even if I feel my mother and the other older women in my life but seemingly fail to understand what it's like for me in this fast paced world with all the technology, everyone wanting to be skinny, should I have a preventative double mastectomy world?

I don't want Him to love me just because He made me, or love me just because He has no choice, or love me because I am just like everyone else.

I want Him to love stubborn, questioning, fist shaking goofy me.

I asked Him to show me that He loves me. In a way that I would understand.

I was working away at my internship in the lab, working on bacterial DNA like I did every day. Suddenly the song 'Take on me' by AHA! Comes into my head. I sang a few bars, and wondered where that had come from. Pop music from the eighties – must be time to eat something, I thought.

Fast forward to that evening I was joining a friend at the gym for a Zumba class. I was trying it out for the first time and was in no time sweating to some Latino beats, hip shaking like every other woman in the sweaty room.

Then it came on, a Latin version of 'Take on me'.

I wept openly as I felt His love so fully for me.

I felt Him saying 'I love you enough to know you like cliché eighties pop music, and I love you enough to show you that I can remind you of a song before I surprise you with it at Zumba'

I wept openly and shook my hips even harder to the glory of a God who loves me enough to giggle with me about eighties pop music.

Do you believe He loves YOU?

Ask Him to show you that He does. You will be surprised how He does it, because only YOU will get it.

TAWAAMBO KAPILIKISHA

You can read more of Tawaambo on either of her blogs

<http://thebookwormgiraffe.blogspot.de/>

<http://mukaintu.blogspot.de/>