

Wednesday Evening, June 15 - Bob Edwards
“LIKE A RIVER IN MY SOUL”

Let's think big, really big! The blue whale is the largest animal in the world and weighs in at 400,000 pounds. The largest continent is Asia where 60% of the world's population resides. The tallest mountain from mean sea level is Mount Everest at 29,029 feet, and the tallest building in the world is in Dubai and stands 2716 feet tall. However, nothing compares to earth's oceans which cover 70% of the earth with its deepest part at seven miles in the Mariana Trench. It's difficult to comprehend the vastness of the oceans, and yet, Tim Osiek uses them to describe the peace, love, and joy that well up inside us because of God's love for us. The words of "Like A River in My Soul" brings us to our knees when we begin to realize how much peace, love, and joy that must be. Osiek also writes that peace in us is like a river. Geologic fact states that a river cuts through rock not because of its power but its persistence. Anyone standing at the rim of the Grand Canyon finds it incomprehensible that a river could carve that canyon, much less just out of persistence. Our persistence is exactly what God wants. He wants us to pursue Him, to pour ourselves out as a living sacrifice, to be willing to give up everything for Him. Matthew 10:38 says: *Whoever does not take up their cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.* The gospel writer also writes about loving God more than our parents and our children. How can this be? The answer lies in the valley, the place of complete surrender. God's love, peace, and joy are oceans and swift rivers in our hearts carving out an unquenchable thirst for the Savior that comes from walking closely with Him daily. Have you experienced peace, love, and joy from the Holy Spirit like this? Can you describe them?