



NORTHVIEW
STUDENTS
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

October 22-23, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

He Is – Week 6 (Love)

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

God is love.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

1 John 4:7-12
Romans 8:38-39
Psalm 103:8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

12 in 12

Put your short-term memory to the test! The game is actually pretty simple, and you can play head-to-head or split up into teams. Silently look at 12 items for 12 seconds. After the 12 seconds, say (if playing it as an Individual Game) or write out (if playing it as a Group Game) as many as you can remember in 30 seconds. You get one point for every item remembered. Play 5 rounds and the highest total score wins a sweet prize!

*****Make sure to test the technology before playing the game!!**

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

Some of you may think this question is great, silly, or just downright gross, but what does love look like to you?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

He Is – Week 6 (Love)
October 22-23, 2022

We are in the final week of our “He Is” series and we have been talking a lot about the qualities and character of God. We have discussed how God is sovereign (which means He is powerful and in complete control), how God is faithful (how He’s always there for us), how He is unchanging, how God is holy which means He is set apart...way more awesome than we will ever be! Finally, last week, we had a focused time just devoted to worshiping God through singing, reading some verses from the Bible, journaling, and spending time in prayer.

Our final quality or attribute of God that we will focus on today is very simple. Here’s our **THP (Take Home Point)**.

God is love.

The English language is kind of a funny thing...we only have one word for love: LOVE. That’s it. There aren’t different words to communicate the depth of love or the kind of love. For some of the indigenous people groups of Alaska, there are over 50 words for “snow” and another group have over 1000 words for “reindeer.” Isn’t that crazy?! And yet...in English, we only have one word for love. We use the same exact word for “I love pizza,” “I love music,” “I love basketball,” “I love my family,” and “I love God.” Obviously, we all know that some things we love are way more important than others and yet we have no other word that can perfectly say how we feel.

Since there are different types of love and different levels of how much we love someone, **how does God’s love fit into all of this? How can we experience God’s love? What is so special or unique about His love?**

There are many religions with a variety of opinions of a god or many gods. However, one of the distinguishing qualities of the God of the Bible is that it clearly states that He is a God of love. There are TONS of verses that talk about how incredible God’s love is!

Look at what the New Testament writer John says in 1 John 4:7-12: *“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”*

THE MESSAGE

Here's another verse from a very famous passage in the New Testament: Romans 8:38-39. A man named Paul writes a letter to a church in Rome and says this: *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Here's one more from the Old Testament in Psalm 103:8 – *"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."*

We read verses like this in the Bible...and yet...we see so much in our world that is evil. Terrible things happen to people. There are diseases, poverty, people going without food and clean drinking water, unexpected deaths and tragedies, racism, injustice, and evils of all kinds. An obvious question I have asked myself before (and one that maybe you have asked) is: "If God is a God of love, then why does He allow terrible things like that to happen?"

Honestly, it is very tough to know the answer to that question. Ultimately, when we sinned against God in the Garden of Eden, sin and evil entered the world. There's probably no way we will ever find out the specific reason for so much suffering and where God is in the middle of it. However, I know what the reason is NOT: it can't be because He doesn't love us. Here's why – this loving God sent His own Son and suffered a terrible death on a cross **SIMPLY BECAUSE HE LOVED US!**

I know there are many of you who come here to Northview Students on a pretty regular basis. There are others of you who are fairly new or might even be here for the first time today. I have a question for you: do you know how loved you truly are? God's love is abounding...it is an overflowing, never-ending love. It will last forever, and it is given to us as a free gift! Jesus willingly gave his life for us and that showed His love for us.

When someone tells you that they love you and they actually really mean it, it's an incredible feeling, isn't it? To know that you are truly loved no matter what. Some of you have parents or family members who tell you "I love you" on a regular basis and they absolutely mean it. There are others of you who may hear that from people, but they don't show it with their actions. There might even be some of you here today who have NEVER heard those words said to you.

I want to be very clear – we love you. Northview Church loves you. Northview Students loves you. Most importantly, God loves you and once you've experienced the love of God, you will never be the same. One encounter with Jesus can change you forever! At our church, people experience His love through people, through the Bible, through worship, through prayer. They sense that God is with them. Once you have an experience with the love of God, I believe your life can change forever.

As we close today, let's look at our **THP (Take Home Point)** one last time: **God is LOVE.**

THE MESSAGE

I have some questions for you to think about silently: have you experienced God's love before? Would you like to? If you have experienced it before, how has it changed your life? How are you showing that love to others? God's love is NOT something to be kept to yourself. The whole world needs to experience it! For some of you in here, you have not made a decision to become a Christian and the Bible says that God gave His one and only Son to die for you so you could be in relationship with God. You can experience His love personally! I'm going to give you an opportunity to do that today.

(Teacher's Note: Move into Gospel presentation – once you're finished with that moment, close out the message with the last part of the script)

If you ever need someone to talk to, our leaders at Northview Students are available to listen to you and help you in any way that we can. Above all, know this – you...are...loved. God created you and has a plan and a purpose for your life. You are His creation. In a world where love is lacking, we have access to greatest love of all: and that's God's love. Have a great time of discussion and have an awesome week!

CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

*****Leader's Note: Make sure to have some Bibles for the students to use.**

What was the THP today and why was that important during the message?

How did God show us His ultimate love to us? What did Jesus Christ have to do with this?

During the message, we read from 1 John 4:7-12 in the New Testament and the first verse says this:

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God."

If love comes from God and we need to love others the way God loves us, how should this influence the way we treat other people?

Would you consider yourself a person who loves God? Does the way you live your life reflect this? Why or why not?

What has been the most important thing you have learned during the "He Is" series? How has this helped you?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

FINAL THOUGHTS

Congratulate the students in your group who made a first-time commitment to Christ today or recommitted their life to Him today. Encourage them and tell them that this group can be an awesome support system for them! Also, in light of the message, make sure you tell your students that you love them. In today's culture, they can't hear that enough!

After your group is finished with the discussion questions, close your group in prayer.

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Game slides and/or videos
- Message script
- Message slides

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister

