



DATE(S)

September 10-11, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

What Do I Think About God?

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

What do I think about God?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

John 14:6-7  
Psalm 139:13  
Ephesians 2:10

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



# OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

## LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

### Wheels or Doors?

The latest viral sensation is to have an opinion on this question: are there more WHEELS in the world – OR – are there more DOORS in the world? Before we get to that question in our opening group discussion, each student needs to determine whether there are more wheels or doors on the screen! This will engage your whole group and it's process-of-elimination style; the last student standing is the winner!

## 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?

Are there more WHEELS in the world – OR – are there more DOORS in the world?

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

**What do I think about God?**

**September 10-11, 2022**

I want to start off today with a little experiment. Many of you have probably heard the phrase, "Don't judge a book by its cover" or "Don't always trust first impressions." However, it's difficult not to have a first impression of someone if you've just met them or have a first impression of something else if you've never experienced it before.

In order to do this experiment, I want all of you to pause this video and go and get a piece of paper and a pen and then come back once you have it. (pause) Ok, do you have your pen and paper? Here's the experiment: I am going to show you a series of pictures and I want you to write down the first word that comes to your mind when you see the picture. Now, it needs to be a descriptive word...like if I show you a picture of a bird, you can't just write down "bird." That's the only rule. Take a few minutes and do this and then we will continue with the rest of the message.

**(Teacher's Note: Begin scrolling through photos and give students 15-20 seconds to write down a word for each picture)**

I know some of those photos were a little silly, but some of them were also very powerful. Some of them showed happiness, celebration, fun...others showed sadness, pain, despair. In fact, each of you came to a conclusion about what you thought of when you saw that photo. Even though it was only one word, you thought something or maybe even FELT something.

**Now, let's imagine that I showed you a photo of God. It would be hard to do that because we can't really see God and even if we could, it would be so crazy our heads might explode. However, we can still ask ourselves this very important question: what do I think about God?**

If I went around and asked each of you what word or phrase you would use to describe God, we would probably get a variety of answers. Some of those words might be "loving" or "holy" or "always there for me." However, there might be others of you who would think of some other words or phrases like "painful" or "doesn't exist" or "hard to understand" or "far away."

# THE MESSAGE

The bottom line is that we all have a perspective of what we think God is like. Our THP (Take Home Point) for today is going to be a little different...it's going to be in the form of a question. It's this simple question:

## **What do I think about God?**

Not just any God...the God of the Bible. What do you think about God? A different way of putting it is to say, "What do I think about Jesus?" because did you know that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God and even claimed to be God? Look at what Jesus says in the New Testament in John 14:6-7: *"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.'"*

**Jesus is saying, "You want to know what God is like...? Look at me! I am just like God! If you have seen me, you have seen God."**

**Let me take this a step further: if Jesus is God, then what do you think God is like? What was Jesus like when he was here on earth?**

Here's the crazy thing: even though we might have different thoughts about God, did you know that God has the same exact thought about every single one of us? In fact, He feels the same way about everything that He has made.

Genesis 1 in the Old Testament talks about how God created the heavens and the earth. Every time He created something, He felt the same way about it: He thought that it was GOOD. When He made the first two human beings on the planet, He said they were VERY GOOD. God loves all of His creation...and that includes you! The reason the question, "What do I think about God?" is so important is because it eventually leads to the question, "What does God think about me?" Would you like to know what God thinks about you today?

Here's what one verse in the Bible says: it's from the Old Testament in Psalm 139:13 – *"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."*

# THE MESSAGE

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Students, did you know God MADE you? Sure, your mom and dad had you as a baby, but God knew everything about you before you were even born. He knew what color your eyes were going to be, He knew your name before your parents picked it out, He knew what your best subject in school would be (and your worst subject), He knew what you would be good at, He knew what you would be afraid of...He knows EVERYTHING about you. The good, the bad, and even the stuff that no one knows about but you.

Listen to another verse about what God thinks of you: it's from the New Testament in Ephesians 2:10 – *“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”*

God thinks you are a masterpiece! God loves you! In fact, He’s crazy about you. God would rather hang out with you than anybody else! God created us so that we could worship and love Him...and then tell others about Him. That’s what we were created to do.

As we close our message today, I want us to think about that question we posed in our **THP (Take Home Point)** – **What do I think about God?** Maybe your view of God has changed today simply because you found out what He thinks about you! I want every single one of you to know God loves you and He wants nothing more than to have a relationship with you! In fact, when God sees a picture of you, He gets so excited. He thinks you are VERY GOOD. Let’s pray.



# CLOSING GROUP TIME

## CLOSING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

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

What was the THP (Take Home Point) today and why was that important during the message?

If someone asked you that question (What do YOU think about God?), how would you respond? Would you feel comfortable or awkward in answering? Why or why not?

During the message, we read a verse in the New Testament from John 14:6-7. Here's what it says:

*"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."*

This verse tells us that Jesus and God are one in the same! What do you know about Jesus's life? What does this tell us about what God is like?

What is one thing you learned today about what God thinks of you?

What is one thing you wish people who DON'T believe in God knew about Him? Why would that be important?

How will the THP (Take Home Point) help you to live differently this week? Be specific.

How can this group pray for you this week?

### ACTIVITIES

After your group is finished with your discussion, close in prayer together!



# PREP NEEDS

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## SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

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

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## LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Stupid Video of the Week  
Message script  
Message slides

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## AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

Pro Presenter or Playlister

