

# GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR US THROUGH GIVING US HIS SON

FOUNDATION: GOD IS LOVE - GOD GIVES HIMSELF

## BIG TRUTH: GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR US THROUGH GIVING US HIS SON

John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 John 4:9-10

### BIBLE VERSE: 1 JOHN 4:10

*"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

### BIG IDEAS

- God loved us even when we were His enemies.
- Jesus, who is God, became a servant out of love for the Father and for us.
- God's love is put on display through Jesus' sacrificial death in our place.

### BIBLE STORY: MARK 10:32-34; ROMANS 5:8

As Jesus and His disciples were making their way to Jerusalem, Jesus reminded His followers that He was going to Jerusalem to die. His death was the way in which God shows the world His love. He sent His Son to pay our sin debt. Jesus was willing to go to Jerusalem even though He knew He was going to die. Jesus is God and He willingly humbled Himself to serve us by dying on the cross for us. His death is a great display of God's love for the world.

### FOUNDATION: GOD IS LOVE - GOD GIVES HIMSELF

God is love. Love is not just something that God does, it is who He is. God's love is perfect and unchanging. It is not simply an emotion or feeling, but it is an unbreakable commitment. His love is displayed to humanity and all of creation by giving us the greatest gift in all the universe....Himself! Even when humanity rebelled against God, He still displayed his love and commitment to us by sending Jesus to redeem us. God's character of love is displayed throughout human history in that He loves us even when we do not love Him back. The way that God demonstrates His love for us is by sending Jesus to die in our place.

### BIG AIMS



KNOW

#### Every child should know:

- God is love, He loves them, and sends His people to show His love to others.



FEEL

#### Every child should feel awe:

- Of the God who loves people who are His enemies.
- For the God who has created them to not only be loved by Him, but also get to share that love with others.



DO

#### Every child should:

- Look for ways to show God's love to others even when they do not deserve it.



WANT

#### Every child should want to:

- Love God who first loved them.
- Put God's sacrificial love on display for others to see.

### FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD LOVES HIS ENEMIES

There is no person who seeks God or loves God first. We know what love is because God loves us first. We are all enemies of God because of our sinful hearts. God still loves us even though we are His enemies. His great love shows us how to love one another.

**GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR US  
THROUGH GIVING US HIS SON****BIBLE VERSE: 1 JOHN 4:10**

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**We understand love because God shows us love.**

- God is love. All that He does is loving.
- We know what love is because He shows us love.
- We understand love because He loved us first.
- We wouldn't know how to love others if God hadn't shown us love first.
- We love God only because He loved us first and showed us what it looks like to love.
- He showed love so we now know how to show love to others.
- No one seeks God first. God seeks people and loves them.

**God showed us what love is by sending His Son.**

- The greatest show of love is loving someone who doesn't deserve to be loved.
- God loves us even though we are sinful and His enemies.
- He sent His Son to pay our sin debt. This teaches us what true love looks like.
- Because of God's sacrifice, we can understand what real love is.
- We can love others because God showed us how to love when He gave us His Son.
- Jesus is the ultimate example of what love is.
- God showed His great love for us by sending His Son to pay our sin debt.

**BIBLE STORY: MARK 10:32-34, 45; ROMANS 5:8***Jesus Must Go To Jerusalem*

Supporting Scripture: Romans 5:8; Mark 10:45; John 15:13

**Teacher Introduction:**

As Jesus' ministry on earth draws to a close, He and His disciples make their way to Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the place that Jesus' death would take place. Jesus knew this as He headed to Jerusalem, yet He continued to lead the way there. As He did, He reminded His disciples that He was going to Jerusalem to die. That had always been the plan before Jesus even came to the earth.

God's love is shown through His sacrifice of Jesus for our sins. We see how to truly love one another through God's example to us. We are all enemies of God, yet He still loves us. No one loves God first. God seeks out us and shows us His love. He loves us even though we reject Him and deny Him. God's love is perfect and true and we learn how to love by having Him first love us.

**Teaching Guide:**

The guide below is provided to help you teach the narrative: *Jesus Must Go To Jerusalem*. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Mark 10:32-34, 45; Romans 5:8 and teach the narrative: *Jesus Must Go To Jerusalem*. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson, questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the narrative: *Jesus Must Go To Jerusalem*.

**Opening Illustration:**

Give each child a picture to color. Before they color the picture, tell them the picture has no color. Ask them to describe the picture. After the children color their picture, place the pictures on the board so everyone can see them. Lead them in a discussion about how the picture was a plan without color before they colored them just like we don't really know what love is before God loves us.

- We know what love is because God loves us first.
- Our lives are so much better when we experience God's love and place saving faith in Jesus.
- Like our pictures became much more colorful and alive when we colored them, our lives become more loving and alive when we know God's love.

**BIG IDEA: GOD LOVED US EVEN WHEN WE WERE HIS ENEMIES.****Even in our sin God loves us.<sup>1</sup>**

- All people are sinful. Our hearts are set on our own sinful ways.
- Jesus still came to die for us even though we were sinners.
- God loves us even though we were sinners.
- Jesus continued to go to Jerusalem even though He knew He was heading toward His death.
- God loves us no matter who we are. His love is unconditional.

**Our sin makes us God's enemy, yet God still loves us.**

- Our sinful hearts mean we do not choose God.
- We choose to make ourselves happy.
- God loves us regardless.
- We are not friends of God when we haven't turned away from our sin.

**God's love goes beyond our sin.**

- God is not held back by our sin.
- God does not keep from loving us even though we are His enemy.
- He loves us even though we are sinful and are His enemy.
- God's love is not conditional. He does not love just people who are worthy to be loved.
- None of us are worthy to be loved, but God loves us regardless.

*Who are the enemies of God? (We are the enemies of God.)*

*Who does God love? (God loves His enemies.)*



Bring in a handheld mirror. Tell the children you are going to show them God's enemies. Let each child take a turn looking in the mirror. Lastly, look in the mirror yourself. Tell them that we are all enemies of God because of our sin. It is only when we turn away from it and place a saving faith in Jesus that we are no longer God's enemies.

1. Romans 5:8: *Even in our sin, God loved us. He sent His Son to die for us even when we rejected Him.*

**BIG IDEA: JESUS, WHO IS GOD, BECAME A SERVANT OUT OF LOVE FOR THE FATHER AND FOR US.****Jesus gave Himself for the world.**

- Jesus is God. He is divine and worthy of our praise.
- He is part of the Trinity, or three persons of God. He is fully God and fully man.
- Though Jesus is God, He became a servant so that He might pay our sin debt.
- He lowered Himself from His place as God and gave His life for our sin debt.
- Jesus was deserving of all praise and honor, yet He set it aside because of His love for God, the Father and for us.



Help the children define the word “Servant.” Help them list ways that each of them can serve others. Remind them that Jesus became our servant and He paid our sin debt.

**Jesus showed great love by becoming a servant.<sup>2</sup>**

- Jesus showed love for God, the Father by humbling Himself to become a servant.
- Jesus showed love for us when He became a servant that He might serve us.
- Jesus knew His death was coming, but that knowledge didn’t stop Him from humbling Himself and paying our sin debt.
- God’s love is never more apparent than when Jesus gave His life for us.
- Jesus, who is worthy of all praise and honor, chose instead to lower Himself as our servant.

**Jesus’ willingness to be a servant shows us God’s love.**

- We know what it means to be a servant because Jesus became one.
- Jesus didn’t consider Himself above dying for our sins.
- He showed us what it means to really love someone.
- We know what it means to sacrifice for others because Jesus set the example for us.

*How did Jesus become our servant? (He paid our sin debt.)*

*What does Jesus deserve from us? (He deserves our praise and honor.)*

2. Mark 10:45: Jesus came to be a servant, not to be served, even though He is God and deserves our service.

## BIG IDEA: GOD'S LOVE IS PUT ON DISPLAY THROUGH JESUS' SACRIFICIAL DEATH IN OUR PLACE.

### We see God's love through the death of His Son.

- God's love is shown to us by His willingness to send His Son to take our place.
- It was always God's plan to send a substitute for us.
- It is God's choice to love us because we could never earn His love.
- Jesus told His followers He would die for them.
- He went to the cross because of God's love for us.

### Loving someone who isn't lovable is the greatest love.<sup>3</sup>

- God displayed perfect love when He sent Jesus to pay our sin debt.
- We understand the great depth of God's love when we see Jesus' sacrifice of Himself.
- Jesus told His disciples that He came to the earth to serve us by taking our place.
- This is God's love revealed to us.
- We were God's enemies. We rejected God. God still sent His Son to take our place.

### Jesus died on the cross for our sins, showing God's love to us.

- Jesus went to the cross and took on our sins.
- He died on the cross to pay our sin debt and when He did, He showed us God's love for us.
- Jesus' death was necessary so that we could be with God.
- God loved us and showed us that He loved us by sending His Son for us.

*How does God show us His great love? (He sent His Son to pay our sin debt.)*



Help the children define the word "sacrifice". Help them come up with examples of sacrifices in life, such as giving up the last piece of dessert, allowing a sibling or friend to go on the slide ahead of you. Tell them that Jesus sacrificed even greater than anything we could ever sacrifice by giving up His life. We know God's love because He sacrificed so greatly.

3. John 15:13: *There is no greater love than to lay down your life for someone else. God's love is the greatest because He sent His Son to die for His enemies.*

## HOOKS

**Jesus Became A Servant**

Bring in a large paper crown. Help the children come up with ways that they can serve each other or their parents. Write the ways they come up with on the outside of the crown. Once the crown is covered with ideas for service, show it to the children. Lead them in a discussion about how Jesus is God, but He willingly became a servant.



- Jesus is God. He is worthy to wear a crown like this because He is royalty.
- When Jesus came to earth, He didn't wear a crown and have people serve Him.
- He served others and He served us by paying our sin debt.
- Jesus was willing to become a servant in order to offer us salvation.

**God Loves His Enemies**

Place a large piece of paper on the board. Divide the children into two groups. Give each group a marker. Have the children race each other to the board to see who can mark on the paper first. Once each team member has had a turn to mark on the paper, ask the children to count the number of marks on the paper. Tell them the marks represent our sin.



- We have all sinned because we all have sinful hearts.
- Our sin makes us God's enemy because God tells us not to sin.
- Even though we're God's enemy, He loves us anyway.
- He loves us no matter what we do.

**God's Love Sacrificed His Son**

Hide several paper hearts throughout the room. Take turns asking children to find a heart and bring it back. Say something like, "Someone with blue eyes go find a heart." Do this until every child has found a heart and brought it back. Show the children the hearts.

- All of these hearts represent the love that God has for us.
- He loves us so much that He sacrificed His Son for us.
- He willingly sent His Son to die for our sins so that we might be with God.
- God's love is shown through the sacrifice of His Son.