



Jesus
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The
CHOSEN
Bible Study
Season 1 Study Guide



Week 1 Study Guide

This is the printable study guide for our Episode 3 theme:

Jesus Loves Us

We hope you'll enjoy these, but we also hope that you'll comment and share on the social media posts we create about the things that you are learning from the Word of God.

In each lesson, you'll notice a "key question". Each lesson will dig into that query, providing Scripture and questions to help develop a more in-depth understanding. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how to answer that question and contemplate what impact that has on your relationship with Jesus.

Sincerely,

The Chosen Bible Study Administration Team





DAY 1: Introduction

Watch Season 1, Episode 3 of ***The Chosen***, titled “Jesus Loves The Little Children”.

While you watch, take note of two things:

1. **Jesus' interactions with the children.**
2. **How Jesus shows love to others.**

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DAY 2: Definitions

KEY QUESTION:
**What is the Biblical definition of
love?**



DAY 2: Definitions

Defining Love

While this episode doesn't directly correlate to any biblical story in particular, there are several teachings that this episode does demonstrate. Instances such as where God provides for all our needs, not seeking revenge, and honoring parents, for example. What is central to these teachings? LOVE! God provides for us because *He loves us*. When we choose not to seek revenge, we are loving others above our need for justice.

Honoring our parents shows love towards them.

Can you bring to mind anything else in this episode that demonstrates times of love being shown?

What comes to mind when you think of love?

In English, love has a lot of different meanings. We say we "love" a lot of things. We love pizza and we love our spouse. Love to us might mean affection, attraction, admiration, loyalty, concern, or adoration. It's easy to get confused about the meaning of the word love. The languages (Hebrew and Greek) used in the Bible provide us with a more precise and concise definition of love, however.

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DAY 2: Definitions

Read 1 Samuel 18:1-3

BROTHERLY LOVE:

ahavah (Hebrew: **אהַבָּה**)

phileo (Greek: **φιλέω**)

This is the kind of love that close friends will show to one another. This generally involves feelings of affection towards one another.

Explain how it was that Johnathan and David were showing brotherly love towards one another.

What can you learn about loyalty and friendship from the actions of Jonathan and David?

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DAY 2: Definitions

Read Romans 12:10

FAMILY LOVE:

ahavah (Hebrew: אהַבָּה)
storgē (Greek: στοργή)

This affectionate love is generally shown between family members and doesn't have to be forced or learned. The combination of "philos" and "storgē" occurs only once in the New Testament, and it is in **Romans 12:10**; which is "philostorgus". It means "to cherish one's kindred." (gotquestions.org) This ancient compound word gives us insight into this love that we should show to those in the family of Christ.

What insight does "philostorgus" give us about how we should respond to fellow believers?



DAY 2: Definitions

Think About It/Application

Key aspects of loving one another include several things. Primarily, we should be displaying the selfless love that Jesus shows to us when we interact with others (**John 13:34-35**). Supporting one another and bearing each other's burdens is another way we exhibit love for others (**Galatians 6:2**). When we help one another through life's challenges, we are loving them. So, as you can see, this kind of devoted love is actively lived and not just something spoken about.

The Bible isn't silent on how we are to respond to others in love. Take some time to read the following verses and ponder how each one relates to loving others as Jesus has commanded us:

Ephesians 4:32

Ephesians 4:3

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Philippians 2:3-4

1 John 3:18

James 5:16

Colossians 3:13

What does it mean to “be devoted to one another in love”?

How does prioritizing the needs of others reflect the character of Christ?

What are some ways you can show this kind of love to others?

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DAY 2: Definitions

Revisiting the Key Question:

What is the Biblical definition of love?

Read **Ruth 1:16-17; John 11:3,36; and John 15:13-15** for further scripture reference.



DAY 2: Definitions

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

We ask that our hearts would be devoted to our brothers and sisters in You and that we would honor them in love. We know that you have lavished us in Your love and that we should show that same love to others. Forgive us when we place our own desires above the welfare of our fellow Christ followers. And keep us ever focused on how You desire us to respond to others in love.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 3: Definitions Continued

KEY QUESTION:
**What is the Biblical definition of
love?**

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DAY 3: Definitions Continued

Before continuing, just a brief reminder of the types of love that have already been discussed:

Firstly, there is **ahavah** (Hebrew: אהבה) and **phileo** (Greek: φιλέω), which is what friends show to one another and involves feelings of affection.

Secondly, again there is **ahavah** (Hebrew: אהבה), but also **storgē** (Greek: στοργή). This affectionate love is what family members have for one another.



DAY 3: Definitions Continued

Read 1 Corinthians 13

FAITHFUL, COMMITTED LOVE:

chesed (Hebrew: **חסֵד**)

agápē (Greek: **ἀγάπη**)

Agápē love is almost always used in describing the love of God. However, it can also include the love we have for God (**Luke 10:27**) or even respect for a master (**Matthew 6:24**).

Whatever the situation, agápē love is a willful act and is always shown in the form of action. Unlike the other loves that we have discussed, agápē love is not feeling-based. We can show this love to both friend *and* foe.

Read Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 John 4:8; and 1 John 3:1

This expounds on the enormity of agápē love and shows the very nature of God: He IS love. Jesus displayed this incredible love for us by his actions on the cross. By the single act of His will, He showed us unmerited, gracious love that put our desperate need ahead of all else.

Did Jesus wait until we cared about Him to show love to us?

What does this say about how we should respond to those who aren't kind to us?



DAY 3: Definitions Continued

Read John 13:34 and Matthew 5:44

Earlier in **John 13**, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. This provides us context for the command to love one another. Jesus is setting the standard for love: humility and putting others above one's own self.

If we were to look only at **John 13**, we might get the impression that we should only love fellow believers; however, **Matthew 5** says otherwise. Instead of only showing love towards our “neighbors”, Jesus tells us to *love our enemies!* In our modern world, this is a big deal, but for ancient Israelites, this was a completely radical concept.

Jesus didn't just command His disciples to love and pray for their enemies. He said this kind of radical love was essential for those bound for an eternity in the Kingdom. He doesn't even try to soft-sell this either. The kind of love Jesus is speaking of expresses itself in action; it requires you to look at the world through the eyes of the Lord.

To whom should we be showing agápē love?

If we obey this command, how will this impact our relationships with others?

What specific examples can you find in the life of Jesus where He is exhibiting this kind of love?

What kinds of things get in the way of loving others the way that Jesus loves us?

How can you get around those obstacles?



DAY 3: Definitions Continued

Revisiting the Key Question:

**What is the Biblical definition of
love?**

Read **Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9-11;**
Ephesians 2:4-5; and **1 John 3:16-18**
for further scripture reference.



DAY 3: Definitions Continued

Prayer

Father God,

You have such great love for us, a love so grand and filled with mercy that while we were yet in rebellion against You, You sent Jesus to rescue us from the dominion of darkness. We are thankful for this abundant grace that You have shown to us. We ask in humility that You would forgive us when we do not respond to others in this same manner. It is so easy for us to forget all that You have done for us. We prayerfully ask that You teach us to humbly love others in the way that You have loved us.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 4: Sinners

KEY QUESTION:
Does God really love me, a sinner?

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DAY 4: Sinners

Yes, we know that God loves the world (**John 3:16**) and that He is love (**1 John 4:8**), but does he really love *us* as individuals? Scripture tells us that He absolutely does love us—including YOU!

It may seem far-fetched to believe that an incredible God could love you. Maybe you've done something awful, maybe you think you're beyond help or beyond the reach of God. I assure you, *you are not*. The Bible tells us that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. (**Romans 5:6**).

Recall the thief on the cross. He was dying; he was paying for his sin. Yet, Jesus saw his repentance. It should have been too late for the thief. Many would say it was too late. But Jesus has the ultimate authority, and grace was given to the thief for his true repentance. Take time to reflect on the thief and the love Jesus gave him, to one undeserving of God's love.

Reading God's Word can help us discover the love God has for us.

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DAY 4: Sinners

Think About It/Application

Read Psalm 139:13-16 and Genesis 1:27

How does the fact that God created you show that God cares about you?

Read Matthew 10:29-32

A right relationship with God, in part, comes from having confidence that God cares for us. As a Christian, we can fully trust that God is watching over us and providing for our needs.

Jesus emphasizes this by speaking about the care God has for even the sparrows. At that time, sparrows were not very valuable creatures, yet Jesus says that not even one of them perishes without God knowing about it. With that said, we can rest assured that He is fully aware of what is going on in our own lives.

Going even further, Jesus says that God knows the number of hairs on each of our heads. From this, we can assert that God not only cares about major events in our lives, but even the smallest details of it. Of course, this doesn't mean that God will always prevent struggles or hardships for the believer, but it does mean that we shouldn't see hard times as abandonment.

How do you know you are of high value to God?

How can Jesus' reassurance about God's care offer comfort in your personal challenges?

When you experience trouble, do you feel like God has abandoned you?

How can you begin to acknowledge that God is with you, despite the battles?

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DAY 4: Sinners

Think About It/Application

Read John 10:10

What is one reason Jesus came?

Would He come for someone He didn't care about?

Does having an abundant life mean a stress-free and trouble-free life?

Read John 15:9-11

Jesus flat-out states that He loves us here. How does He say we can show that we love Him?

Read Romans 8:15-17

What happens in this passage?

Did you see it? God doesn't see us as His slaves. Rather, He rescued us to make us *His kids*. Slaves live terrified of their masters; God doesn't desire that. We've been adopted by a loving Dad who makes us not just His children, but heirs—heirs of the Holy Kingdom! Think about this: Of course, we are thrilled to be saved from hell, but God goes farther. He gives us all that is Christ's—full access! Is there any greater gift than that?!

How can this help you when you are going through tough times?

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DAY 4: Sinners

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 8:31-32

Again, we read that God loves us. But, there's also proof here.

What is the “proof” that God loves us (hint: What did He give up)?

There is a very comforting truth here, and that is the promise that God is for us. He is working out His purpose for us, which is making us like Christ. Now when things get hard, we might start to doubt. When that happens, we need to look no further than this Scripture. God the Father didn't spare His own Son. Such an immense love has the Father shown in giving up His only Son, that we might live forever with Him. How on earth could we ever think that He is not for us?

Read Ephesians 5:1-2

What kind of children are we?

Thanks to Jesus, we are able to have a Father-child relationship with God. We can copy the way that God shows love to us and continually act in love. Jesus Christ sacrificed for us as an act of worship and sacrifice and to act on our behalf. Because of this, we should continue to walk in selfless love in obedience to God.

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DAY 4: Sinners

Revisiting the Key Question:

Does God really love me, a sinner?

Read **Matthew 10:30-32; John 15:9-11;**
Romans 8:15-17; and **Romans 8:37-39**
for further scripture reference.



DAY 4: Sinners

PRAYER

Abba Father,

We come to You and ask that Your Holy Spirit will prompt us to keep your commandments so that we may eternally abide in your love. We know that when we live in obedience to You that our joy will be found in You and will be complete. Forgive us when we choose to follow our own plan instead of Yours. And we ask that, in Your love, You gently bring us back near to Your heart. We thank You for loving us so completely!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 5: God's Love

KEY QUESTION:

**What is God's love? And does He
love everyone equally?**



DAY 5: God's Love

THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is no more clearly seen than on the cross of Calvary. *“Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends.”*

(John 15:13) God's love is sacrificial and eternal, revealed in the sacrifice of Jesus. That God would do this is absolutely incredible!

This love is not just for the lucky. It isn't based on what you've done or haven't done. Your nationality, ethnicity, skin color, or level of intelligence doesn't matter. God desires that NO ONE should perish. You are a part of that group!

Difficult times and hard circumstances can make us think that God isn't listening or maybe doesn't love us after all, but the Word tells us that absolutely *nothing* can separate us from the love of God
(Romans 8:35-39)!



DAY 5: God's Love

Think About It/Application

Read 1 John 3:1-3

Are you a child of God? The sheer fact that you are is a grand example of the love of God. And if you aren't a child of God yet, the Father is waiting to lavish His love on you!

What's even more fantastic than this? You are not just "called" children OF God. John specifically says that you truly ARE God's child. In this, John brings up "knowing".

Well, what does that mean? It's so much more than just recognizing or merely acknowledging the existence of God. This "knowing" refers to an intimate connection to God.

What is the way that God has lavished His love on us?

How does knowing you are a child of God change how you see yourself?

What evidence of the love of God do you see in your own life?

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DAY 5: God's Love

Think About It/Application

Now, read all of **1 John 4**. We're going to go through this verse by verse, beginning at verse 7.

Read 1 John 4:7

Where is love from?

If you love others, what does this indicate?

What does it mean to “know” God?

Read 1 John 4:8

What does it say about you if you do not love others?

Read 1 John 4:9

The mission of Jesus was to give life to those who would believe. This life is eternal and abiding, but not confined to these boundaries. We can also have a full life now, by living obediently and trusting in the plan Jesus has for every one of us.

What are we able to do through Jesus?

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DAY 5: God's Love

Think About It/Application

Read 1 John 4:10

Godly love is just not something we are capable of without Him first loving us. Praise be to God, His love came to us and provided us with the opportunity to know Him and to love others.

Again, we see attributes of the love of God. It is notable that His love isn't just a feeling, but an action. Nowhere is this more evident than in Jesus coming into the world and taking on the punishment that should have been meted out to every single one of us.

How did God show that He loved us?

Define propitiation.

How does that deepen your understanding of this verse?

Read 1 John 4:11

Why should we love others?

When we understand how much God loves us, it changes the way we see and interact with others. How do you see this playing out in your own life?

Read 1 John 4:12-15

What reward do we receive when we love others?

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DAY 5: God's Love

Think About It/Application

Read 1 John 4:16

Here we see two words that are both important...*knowing* and *believing*.

What is the difference between knowing and believing?

What happens if we have one without the other?

What benefit is it to us when we believe in the love God has for us and remain in love?

Read 1 John 4:17-19

These verses give us insight into the depths of God's love for us. If you are a believer, you need not fear the Day of Judgment. You have been forgiven by God! But, for those who do not believe, there awaits a judgment that should be absolutely feared by them.

John dives into this fear associated with punishment and leads us to understand that the believer does not have to fear future punishment.

Are you still fearing?

Because of love, what can we have on the Day of Judgment?

What does love do to fear?

What are some examples from your life where love has cast out fear?

Is there something you still experience ungodly fear in? What might be the reason for that?

Read 1 John 4:20-21

What does this say about the way we are to treat others?

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DAY 5: God's Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

What is God's love? And does He love everyone equally?

Read all of **1 John** for a more complete picture of Godly love for future scripture reference.



DAY 5: God's Love

PRAYER

Gracious Father,

We thank You that You loved us so much that You sent your Son to be the propitiation for our sins. We ask that You show us opportunities to love one another as You have loved us. Please forgive us when we don't use opportunities that You have placed before us and encourage us to love more.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



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Week 2 Study Guide

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DAY 6: Qualities of Love

KEY QUESTION:
**What are the qualities of God's
love?**



DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Defining Love

How would you define love?

Dictionary.com defines love as “a strong feeling of warm personal attachment or deep affection, such as for a parent, child, friend, or pet”.

Unfortunately, the modernized definition of love doesn’t really come close to describing the love of God.

Biblical love shows itself in selflessness, sacrifice, patience, kindness, and obedience to the commands of the Lord. It’s not just an emotion, but emotions can be involved. Actions and a commitment to the well-being of others is a hallmark characteristic of the love seen in the Bible. ***Love is the very reflection of God’s own nature!***

Now, let’s take a look at some Scripture to see if we can dig into this magnificent love just a bit deeper.



DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Think About It/Application

Read John 10:11-18 and John 15:13

How do we see the divine love of God in these Scriptures?

How does Jesus' promise of protection here give you comfort and show love to you?

For you, living in today's world, what would it look like for you to lay down your life for your friends?

Read Jeremiah 31:3

The historical context of Jeremiah is imperative to take note of. Why, you ask? Well, this was a very turbulent time for Judah, which included the Babylonian exile. And, in this time period, Jeremiah often prophesied about the unfaithfulness of the people and the consequences that were coming. So, for God to state in the middle of all of this that His love is everlasting is truly incredible!

What does this tell us about the way that God loves His people?

What can we learn about the character of God?

How does the assurance that God's love is "forever" impact your relationship with Him?



DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 8:35-39

How do you feel knowing that nothing can separate you from God's love?

Do you believe that you can separate yourself from the love of God?

What Scripture do you have to support that belief?

Read John 3:16

Jesus Christ showed His sacrificial love for us on the cross; how does that affect your day to day living?

Read Ephesians 1:3-10

So what are the spiritual blessings we gain? It's not some special, mysterious power, but it is the benefit of being in a solid relationship with God through Jesus Christ. For a little deeper understanding, let's go to the Greek. The word "blessing" in Greek is "eulogy" (Εὐκώμιο), which means "to speak well of". In spiritual blessings, this blessing means that God has said good things about us, namely that we are made holy and blameless as children of God. We have been given salvation with full access to God. We are accepted, beloved. The blessings continue to include forgiveness of sin, knowledge of the mystery of His will, wisdom and insight through the Word and Spirit. And the inheritance we gain through Christ, we cannot even fathom (**1 Corinthians 2:9**)!

God promises us a "glorious inheritance", what does that mean?

What is "the mystery of God's will that He purposed in Christ"?



DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Think About It/Application

Read through the following Scripture and write down some of the spiritual blessings we have in Christ.

- **Ephesians 1:13** (Sealing of the Holy Spirit; mark of ownership)
- **1 Corinthians 3:9** (Laborers with God)
- **2 Corinthians 5:20** (Ambassadors)
- **2 Corinthians 11:2** (Bride of Christ)
- **Philippians 4:7** (Peace)
- **Romans 8:39** (Nothing separates us)

How can you better understand and appreciate the spiritual blessings that you have in Christ?

Summarize some of the attributes of God's love:

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DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

What are the qualities of God's love?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

(Sacrificial) **Matthew 10:45, Luke 22:41-42, Philippians 2:6-8**

(Everlasting) **Psalm 136:26, 1 John 3:1, Psalm 86:15**

(Unconditional) **Matthew 5:43-48**

(Redeeming) **1 Peter 1:18-19, Galatians 3:13, Colossians 1:13-14**



DAY 6: Qualities of Love

Prayer

Father God,

We are an unfaithful people, our hearts often turning to our own selfish desires. Yet you are faithful; faithful to love us and welcome us back when we turn to you in repentance. In Your great love, You have abundantly blessed us with everything we need for life and godliness. We have become Your children through Jesus Christ, and we are thankful!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 7: Expressions of Love

KEY QUESTION:

How does God demonstrate love?

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DAY 7: Expressions of Love

GOD IS LOVE

God doesn't just demonstrate love, He IS love. He doesn't just show us love, it is an actual attribute and characteristic of God.

However, the Word does specifically state, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (**Romans 5:8**) So, definitely the most prominent way that we see God showing His love is that Jesus died for our sins when we were in utter rebellion against Him.

Noticeable in this is the *action* involved in love. This sacrificial love is amazing! How willing are you to give up something valuable for someone else? How about giving up something you cherish for someone who hates you? This is exactly the kind of love that turns hearts heavenward.

When was the last time you sacrificed something for someone else?

What did you sacrifice?

How do you feel about sacrificing for someone who hates you?

What are some practical ways you can demonstrate sacrificial love to those around you?



DAY 7: Expressions of Love

Think About It/Application

It should be clear that God's perfect love for us is without limit, and He expresses it in so many ways. Let's take a peek at some of these ways:

- **Colossians 1:16** – He created us for Him.
- **1 Peter 1:5 and 2 Timothy 1:12** – We are guarded by His power.
- **John 3:16** – He gave up His only Son so that we would be reconciled to Him.
- **Ephesians 2:8-9** – He saves us by giving us the gift of salvation.
- **Ephesians 2:10** – He has given us a calling and gifts.
- **1 Corinthians 12:7** – He has given us the Holy Spirit.
- **John 3:1** – We have been made a part of God's family.
- **John 14:2-3** – God has prepared an eternal home with Him (for believers).



DAY 7: Expressions of Love

Think About It/Application

Now it's your turn. Jot down how God shows us love in each of the following Scriptures.

Read Matthew 7:7

What great encouragement we can gain from this! We are invited to be actively and perpetually involved in a conversation with our heavenly Father. Not only that, but God is willing to respond! We can have assurance that God hears us! God desires to have open and ongoing communication with us.

How does this reinforce that God loves us?

Read Hebrews 12:6-8

Nobody likes to be disciplined; however, the discipline of God is an actual sign of His love and acceptance. Discipline, while not pleasant, is essential for spiritual growth, and we're encouraged to understand that hardships are a part of God's loving plan to transform us into the image of His Son.

How can this provide comfort, assurance, and motivation for a life of faith?

Read Ephesians 1:7

Redemption and forgiveness through Jesus Christ is boldly proclaimed in this verse. The blessings emphasized are the abundant grace and love we see in the sacrificial death of Jesus.

How does this verse give you assurance of salvation and of God's love?

Read Romans 8:28

Here we see that God is always actively at work in the lives of believers to use every situation for their ultimate good; which is transformation into the image of Christ. We can be assured of this because of the great love that God has for us. Do you know anyone else who is willing to do whatever it takes to do what is best for you? Me neither. Only God does this!

How does this verse encourage you to trust in God's goodness and the love He has for you?



DAY 7: Expressions of Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

How does God demonstrate love?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Proverbs 2:6 (Gives wisdom)

Proverbs 16:9 (Directs our steps; guides)

John 15:11 (Joy)

Philippians 4:13 (Strengthens us)

John 14:27 (Peace)

So many more examples could be given to show how God loves us. Our challenge to you as you read the Word this week is to find as many of those as you can.



DAY 7: Expressions of Love

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

In the enormity of the love you have for us, You died and suffered in our place. While we were still sinners,

You died for us. We cannot even begin to comprehend this in our sinful nature. With Your Holy Spirit, though, we rejoice and give thanks! Even when You discipline us for our transgressions, You do so in love. Help us to remember that transforming our hearts into the image of Your Son may be painful, but it is an incredible gift!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

KEY QUESTION:

**Where can we find stories in the
Bible of God showing love to His
people?**

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

Throughout the Bible there are countless examples of a faithful God demonstrating love towards people. The story that we'll look at up close is interesting and rather unusual in the world's standards—interesting because the person that has been shown great love has been persecuting and murdering Jesus followers.

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

READ: Acts 9:1-22

Saul was on his way to Damascus when he encountered the God of heaven in a dramatic way. A great light shone all around him and blinded him.

Jesus then appears, asking Saul why he was persecuting HIM!

And yet...

In great love and mercy, God sent Ananias to Saul, now known as Paul. The scales were removed from Paul's eyes, and he was used to preach the Name of Jesus boldly and fervently.

The love of God radically transformed and saved Paul while he was actively harming Christ followers. That's how much we are loved by the heavenly Father!

“While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8)

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

Each of the following stories show God's love to people, like us, who are undeserving of it.

Read the stories, identify the sinner, identify the sin, and note how God responds to the person and the sin:

John 8:1-12

Luke 15:11-32

John 4:2-28

CHALLENGE: How then are we to respond to the sinner and the sin?

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

Where can I find stories in the Bible of God showing love to His people?

Read **John 3:17**, **Luke 7:48**, **1 Timothy 1:13-16**, and **Acts 26:16-20** for further scripture reference.

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DAY 8: Biblical Love

Prayer

Faithful Father,

We admit that we are so undeserving of the love that You show us. Help us to remember that despite this,

You continue to shower us with love. Let us be reminded to do the same for those who oppose us. In grace, help us to respond to our enemies with the love You have demonstrated to us.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

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DAY 9: What Is Love?

KEY QUESTION:
What is love exactly?



DAY 9: What Is Love?

Let's begin to answer this question by talking about the cost of love. Jesus showed us His love by willingly *dying on the cross* for your sins, for my sins, for the sins of the world.

1 Corinthians 13 is often referred to as the “Love Chapter” and is very clear about what love is and is not. Paul tells about the essence and significance of love. Now, with that said, let's take a deep dive into this passage.



DAY 9: What Is Love?

Think About It/Application

Paul talks about how important love is, even going so far as to say that if someone has amazing spiritual gifts or does incredible acts, if they don't have love, all of that is pointless.

He speaks very clearly on the characteristics of love:

Love is patient.
Love is kind.
It does not envy.
It does not boast.
It is not proud.
It does not dishonor others.
It is not self-seeking.
It is not easily angered.
It keeps no records of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil.
But rejoices with the truth.
It always protects.
Always trusts.
Always hopes.
Always perseveres.

CHALLENGE: Try putting your name in any place that speaks of love (e.g. "Sue is patient, Sue is kind, She does not envy...").

Are the statements still true?

After completing this exercise, what areas do you note that need radical transformation through Jesus?



DAY 9: What Is Love?

Think About It/Application

Paul further goes on to claim that love is permanent. Yes! Permanent. He says that prophecies, tongues, and knowledge will eventually fade away, but love is forever! He also emphasizes the fact that as believers mature, they will begin to grow in understanding of the value and importance of love!

Furthermore, Paul pushes his readers to eagerly pursue love and says that this is foundational to the life of a Christian.

How can you practically apply the principles of love as outlined here in our everyday lives and/or relationships?

What kinds of challenges do you run into in expressing love as it is described here?

How can you overcome these challenges?

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 9: What Is Love?

Revisiting the Key Question:

What is love exactly?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

John 13:34-35

John 15:13

Romans 12:9-10

Romans 13:8-10

Galatians 5:22-23

Ephesians 4:2

Colossians 3:14

1 John 4:7-12



DAY 9: What Is Love?

PRAYER

Loving Father,

We ask that You would transform our hearts to become more like Jesus in love. Encourage and enable us to pursue love and to show the world who You are. We ask that You would forgive us for the areas of love we are lacking, for times when we act on our own desires and not on Yours. Teach us how to love others more, we ask.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 10: Love Others

KEY QUESTION:
How does Jesus love us?



DAY 10: Love Others

SHARE THE LOVE

"I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

(John 13:34)

Jesus commands us to love others as He has loved us. The love of Jesus is selfless, servant-hearted, countercultural, and 100% good!

He has an unfathomable love that is on display continually. So when He says to love as He loves, surely that seems like an impossible task. What's more, when Jesus was on the planet, *He didn't leave anyone out*. He tore down barriers, went to the marginalized people, and preached a message of repentance and everlasting life. He desires for us to do the same here and now.

The crux of this is that, as a Christian, you are empowered by the Spirit to show the same kind of love that Jesus does. A love that forgives. A love that is filled with compassion. A love that puts others above yourself.



DAY 10: Love Others

Think About It/Application

Read Ephesians 5:2

Our call as believers is to live a life of love that is modeled after the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. This kind of love is not only pleasing to God, but can serve as a powerful witness of the transformation that happens when we are in Christ.

How should we love others?

What does “walk in love” mean?

Compare Ephesians 5:2, 1 Corinthians 13, and Romans 12:9-10. How is John 13:34-35 similar to Ephesians 5:2?

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:9

Who teaches us to love others?

What does it mean to be “taught by God”? How does this compare to human teachings on love?

How can we show love to others in our day-to-day living?



DAY 10: Love Others

Think About It/Application

Read 1 Peter 1:22

The word “earnestly” is used in this verse, but to get the true impact of this, we should dig into the Greek word and meaning. Ektenos (ἐκτενῶς) means “in an all out manner” (bibleref.com). In modern language, we might say, “Give it all you’ve got!” So, this verse certainly demands that we love each other as if our very lives depended on it.

**With that in mind, is half-hearted love a godly type of love?
How radically should we love?**

What is meant by “purify yourselves by obeying the truth”?

What areas and relationships in your life need to grow in demonstrating this kind of love?



DAY 10: Love Others

Revisiting the Key Question:

What is God's love? And does He love everyone equally?

Read **Leviticus 19:18**, **James 2:8**, and **1 John 2:7-10** for future scripture reference.



DAY 10: Love Others

PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

We know that You desire for us to live a life of obedience to the Father. And this includes loving others radically. Please help us to be attentive when You are teaching us how to love so that we may bring glory to Your Name and others may come to know You and Your love.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



Jesus
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Us

The
CHOSEN
Bible Study
Season 1 Study Guide



Week 3 Study Guide

This is the printable study guide for our Episode 3 theme:

Jesus Loves Us

We hope you'll enjoy these, but we also hope that you'll comment and share on the social media posts we create about the things that you are learning from the Word of God.

In each lesson, you'll notice a "key question". Each lesson will dig into that query, providing Scripture and questions to help develop a more in-depth understanding. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how to answer that question and contemplate what impact that has on your relationship with Jesus.

Sincerely,

The Chosen Bible Study Administration Team





DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”

(John 13:34)

KEY QUESTION:
Who is Jesus speaking to, and what does this mean for us?



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Love One Another

In this particular verse (**John 13:34**), Jesus is talking to His disciples. He made it clear to them—and to us—that the love shown toward others would be a distinguishing characteristic of a true believer. This Scripture wasn't only for the disciples; rather, it is for every believer in every generation. The very premise of this is that loving others selflessly will be what sets us apart and makes us easily recognizable.



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 13:8-10

Believers should approach every relationship they have with love in mind. Our actions should be motivated by sincere concern and care for those we engage with, actively avoiding harm to others. This Scripture reminds us that we have a responsibility to love others; this simply is not an option for us! Essentially, our lives should be demonstrating daily the great love of God.

How is it that we fulfill the Law?

What does it mean that “whoever loves others has fulfilled the Law”?

How does the fact that “love fulfills the Law” affect the way you respond to others?

What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Think About It/Application

Read Matthew 5:43-48

How are we to treat our enemies?

What does this prove?

How does this apply to your enemy or someone who has hurt you?

Read 1 Peter 4:8

Love covers a multitude of sins. But what does this mean? In a loving community, forgiveness is practiced and minor offenses don't cause disharmony. There's open communication with both parties having listening ears. It does *not* mean that sin is ignored, but, instead, love approaches the fellow believer with reconciliation and healing in mind, not condemnation. When we love others in this manner, we get the great honor of showing the world just how powerful the love of God truly is!

What are some things that fervent love does?

Do you have a tendency to love or judge others in their sin?

How can you hold fast to both grace and truth when dealing with sin in your own life? In the lives of others?



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Think About It/Application

Read 1 Corinthians 16:14

What should be done in love?

How does this command to “do everything in love” show the character of God?

In what areas of your life do you struggle to actively love? How could you approach those challenges?

Having a rich and deep understanding of God's love for you, will better enable you to act in a loving manner towards others.

With that said, how can you develop a more thorough understanding of the enormity of the love of God?



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Revisiting the Key Question:

Who is Jesus speaking to, and what does this mean for us?

Read **Luke 6:35, Proverbs 10:12**, and **1 Corinthians 13:1-3** for further scripture reference.



DAY 11: Love Others (Continued)

Prayer

Precious Father,

The love You have for us is beyond our understanding most of the time. We ask that You would open our eyes to see the greatness of Your love. Let us strive to actively love others in the manner that You love us. Let our hearts be filled with joy and peace when we are reminded that each day, each minute, You are showering us in love. Please forgive us when we do not respond appropriately to Your holy love and lead us in the way everlasting.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 12: By Our Love

KEY QUESTION:
How will others know we are
disciples by our love?



DAY 12: By Our Love

THEY WILL KNOW

Even *unbelievers* show love to others. Have you thought about this before? We know we sure have!

So what's the difference?

Loving as Jesus loved is *radically different* from the world's version of love. Early Christians were frequently noted for the manner in which they loved others. Not only were they an example for us, but for others in their time. Next time you read through Acts, take note of how they loved each other and those whom they were witnessing to.

When we love others, as Christ loves us, it becomes a powerful witness to the validity of the message of the cross. Think of it this way: A Gospel that is life-changing ought to be lived out in a life-changing love of others. When we allow the Spirit free reign in our lives, we can certainly demonstrate that pure love that will draw others to Jesus.



DAY 12: By Our Love

Think About It/Application

Read John 13:1-20 and John 13:31-35

Briefly, let's look at the context of what is happening here:

To begin, Jesus is speaking with the disciples during the Last Supper, and demonstrates humility and servant leadership by washing the feet of His disciples. Throughout this chapter, Jesus is explaining that the defining characteristic of His followers will be their love for one another. This deliberate move into an action kind of love that reflects the love that He shows is what matters. We should never forget that Jesus is the One who modeled perfect love for us—perfect, sacrificial, inclusive love.

Does this seem like a mighty high standard? It is! Don't be discouraged, though. If you are a Christ follower, His Spirit is more than capable of enabling you to love in this fashion.

What factors might influence the interpretation—or misinterpretation—of this command?

How well do you, as an individual, show the love Jesus speaks of in this verse?

Jesus
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DAY 12: By Our Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

How does God demonstrate love?

The command to love one another is consistent throughout both the Old and New Testaments. For further scripture reference and exploration, read through these Scriptures:

Leviticus 19:18

John 15:12

Galatians 5:13-14

1 John 3:11

John 13-17



DAY 12: By Our Love

Prayer

Loving Jesus,

We come to You with humility in our hearts, knowing that on our own we are simply not capable of loving others the way that You do. We pray that the Holy Spirit would work boldly in us, causing our thoughts and actions to be for the welfare of others. We ask for forgiveness for often ignoring the promptings of the Spirit and pray that our hearts would turn toward You and Your will. Let our love be sincere and a blessing to those around us.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

KEY QUESTION:

**What are some other examples of
Jesus showing love?**



DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

Read John 13:1-17

This is a beautiful picture of love. Jesus is washing the feet of His disciples. So, let's explore how the washing of feet and love are related.

In ancient days, people ate reclining at low tables and walked in sandals on dirt roads; feet needed to be cleaned. This might not seem like a big deal to us in modern days, but in times past this was a job that a lowly servant would do. The servant would wash the filth-caked feet of those who were to come into the master's house.

Jesus showed great humility and love when He washed the feet of the disciples. But that's not all. What we see here gave the disciples a foretaste of His ultimate act of love on the cross which illustrated their spiritual cleansing...

The greatest act of love of all time!



DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

Think About It/Application

Read John 13:8

Peter is, at first, staunchly opposed to Jesus washing his feet. Since this was typically the job of a servant, he just wasn't able to understand the "whys" of Jesus performing such a lowly, humble act. What Peter was not understanding was the nature of Jesus.

Peter's refusal also reflects a misunderstanding of Jesus' mission. At the time, he just didn't understand the implications; he couldn't see that this was both a lesson in humility and a symbol of the spiritual cleansing that was yet to come. This spiritual cleansing that was yet to come was and is, of course, the cross.

Like feet need cleaning, human souls need to be cleansed from sin. This event helps us see the necessity of accepting the sacrificial work of Jesus on the cross. Without the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we would be without hope of redemption and reconciliation with the Father.

Why would Peter protest about Jesus washing his feet?

What does Peter's initial refusal and subsequent acceptance teach us about human pride and submission?

Do you have a hard time accepting help from others? What can you learn from this?

Is it hard for you to embrace humility and allow Jesus to "wash your feet"?

What areas do you struggle with this the most?

Jesus
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Us

DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

Think About It/Application

Read 1 John 1:9

What do we need to do to be cleansed from our sins?

Read John 13:15

Jesus doesn't mince words here. Rather, He very specifically says that He has just set an example for them. He is showing them that they (and us) should serve others humbly. When we can begin to grasp that greatness in the Kingdom is marked by service and love versus status and power, we are on the right path. This example should serve as a powerful reminder that humility, service, and love are paramount to faith in Jesus Christ.

What did Jesus tell his disciples they should do?

How can we be modern day "foot washers"?

How does this section of Scripture affect our interactions with people in positions of power?

How about those considered 'lesser' in society?



DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

What are some other examples of Jesus showing love?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Matthew 14:14
John 11:35, 38
Matthew 15:32
Mark 6:34
Matthew 8:16
John 17:20-21



DAY 13: Jesus Shows Love

Prayer

Savior Jesus,

We ask for Your forgiveness for the times that we have elevated our own status rather than serve one another in love. Help us to see the opportunities to humbly serve others that You place before us each day. We are so grateful that You chose to cleanse us from our sin by Your sacrifice. Your selfless act of love has secured our freedom, and we pray that we would never take this for granted.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 14: Everlasting Love

KEY QUESTION:
Will Jesus continue to love me?



DAY 14: Everlasting Love

People let us down, and maybe this has had an impact on your system of beliefs. Because others have disappointed you and have not shown you love, you may believe that Jesus is like that.

This simply isn't true. Others may have let you down in the past, and may continue to do so in the future, *but Jesus never will! He IS love.*



DAY 14: Everlasting Love

Think About It/Application

Read Romans 8:37-39

Jesus is faithful to love us—period. In **Romans 8**, Paul takes time to emphasize that nothing in the world can separate us from the love that God has for us. It is in this overwhelming nature of God's love that we can find absolute security. God's love isn't something that wavers like the ebbs and flows of our own human emotions. Not at all! His love is constant and eternal. Ponder that.

Knowing that nothing can cut the bond of love between God and a believer can give us unshakeable security in our relationship with Him. We can rest assured that no matter what may come our way, the love of God is unfailing!

How does the fact that nothing can separate us from the love of God show that Jesus loves us faithfully?

When you are in difficult times or moments of doubt, how can you remind yourself that God's love never fails?

You are inseparable from the love of God, how can this knowledge help you live a life of freedom and confidence?

How can you show the steadfast love of God to others who are struggling or in need of hope?



DAY 14: Everlasting Love

Think About It/Application

Read 1 John 4:16

What happens when we remain in love?

How does this relate to the faithfulness of Jesus?

What does it mean to rely on God's love?

Read Hebrews 6:17-18

In chapter 6 of Hebrews, we get a glimpse at God's character. From this it is absolutely clear that God is unchanging and His promises are true. He will be faithful to fulfill them. In short, it is here that we find encouragement for believers: the reassurance that God's promises are secure and dependable. And because He cannot lie, this means that every single promise He made regarding love *will be fulfilled*. What great peace and comfort is to be found when we're focused on the great character of God!

Who does God desire to make His promises known to?

What does He want us to know?

What is something that is impossible for God to do?

What do we have encouragement in?

CHALLENGE: Find as many promises of God's love in the Bible as you are able and then meditate on what a great gift it is to be loved by the Most High God.



DAY 14: Everlasting Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

Will Jesus continue to love me?

Read the following passages for further scripture reference:

Lamentations 3:22-23

Psalm 63:3

Isaiah 54:10

Psalm 86:15

Ephesians 3:18-19



DAY 14: Everlasting Love

PRAYER

Beloved Father,

What a magnificent gift You have bestowed on us, Father God. The unchanging, everlasting, all-sufficient love You have for us is truly magnificent! Thank You! We ask that when we start to become overwhelmed by the worries of the world that You would remind us that nothing can separate us from Your love —nothing. Help us to find refuge in that. We can read in the Bible that You have said that we will find refuge in You and that Your faithfulness will shelter us. Forgive us when we forget this.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 15: God IS Love

KEY QUESTION:

**What should I remember about
God's love?**

Jesus
LOVES
Us

DAY 15: God IS Love

THROUGH IT ALL

When we have a right view of the character of God, it is much easier to believe what He has said. So, let's spend our last day getting a solid grasp on God's character of love. The love God has for His people is seen throughout the Bible, demonstrated in many ways, across many generations:

Creation and Provision: The very creation can be seen as an expression of God's love. He provides for us by filling our world with resources, both for sustaining us and simply for enjoyment (**Genesis 1-2**).

Covenants: In the Old Testament, God made covenants with several folks. In making these, we see that God is committed, faithful, and enduring in His love for those He has chosen.

Protection and Presence: Exodus gives us a spectacular example of how God protects His people. In His great love, He delivered the Israelites from slavery and lead them through the wilderness towards the Promised Land. The pillars of cloud and fire let us know God was present with them.

Guidance: God first gave the Law to Moses to provide His people with guidance for a righteous life. And, in the New Testament, He gave us His Only Son to ensure that we have a righteousness that leads to eternal security (**John 3:16, John 10:28**).

Comfort and Compassion: **2 Corinthians 1:3-4** emphasizes that God is the source of compassion and comfort. Because of this promise, we can be sure that He will walk through all the valleys with us and comfort us in love.

Forgiveness and Restoration: The Bible is filled with examples of God repeatedly forgiving His people when they repent and turn back to Him. The love He exhibits for His people is evident in His willingness to forgive and restore us, even when we've gone astray.

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit: After Jesus ascends to the Father, the Holy Spirit is sent to dwell within believers. The presence of the Spirit empowers us, guides us, and reminds us of God's love for us.



DAY 15: God IS Love

Think About It/Application

As we close this study on the love of God, make every effort to bear in mind that God loves you regardless of your past. In the present, know that His great love desires what is ultimately best for you and shows love to you right now in His actions, presence, and promises. Certainly, then, you can put your hope and trust in Jesus Christ, knowing that nothing can separate you from the love of God!



DAY 15: God IS Love

Revisiting the Key Question:

**What should I remember about
God's love?**

Read the following passages for
future scripture reference:

Romans 5:8
1 John 4:9-10
Ephesians 2:4-5
1 John 4:16
Galatians 2:20
Titus 3:4-5
2 Corinthians 5:21
John 1:14



DAY 15: God IS Love

PRAYER

Father in Heaven,

We are thankful for Your unending love! You show us this in so many ways, ways that we don't even recognize sometimes. You are a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

In this love, we are grateful to be the recipients of forgiveness. Let our hearts live in obedience to You because You first loved us!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen