

## THRIVE AT HOME - Love Looks Like Something – WEEK 5

### Monday – SO LOVED - John 3:16, Romans 5:6-8, 1 John 4:9-10

When Jesus said, “For God so loved the world,” He was not merely stating a fact—He was revealing the depth of the Father’s heart. It would have been sufficient to say that God loved the world. Yet Jesus intentionally added the word so to communicate the intensity, extent, and depth of that love. The word translated “loved” comes from the Greek *agapaō*. This is not a fleeting or emotional love; it is a deliberate, self-giving, covenant love. It speaks of valuing, esteeming, and choosing another with faithful commitment. In other words, God’s love for the world was not a reaction—it was a decision rooted in His nature. Even while humanity was broken by sin, God’s heart was inclined toward redemption. This truth should lead us not only to gratitude but to worship and surrender. God so loved you—personally, intentionally, and sacrificially.

Reflect & Respond: Where do you struggle to believe that God loves you truly? Spend time today thanking God specifically for His love shown through Christ.

Prayer: Father, thank You for loving me with a deep and faithful love. Help me to live each day anchored in the assurance of Your love and surrendered to Your will. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

### Tuesday – LOVE THAT GAVE - John 3:16, Romans 8:31-32, John 1:14-18

God’s love was not expressed merely in words—it was demonstrated through giving. Jesus said that God gave His only begotten Son. Love moved God to action, and that action led directly to the cross. Notice the cost of this gift. God did not give out of excess or convenience; He gave what was most precious to Him. The phrase “only begotten Son” highlights the uniqueness and intimacy of the relationship between the Father and the Son. Yet, for our sake, the Father willingly gave Him up. The cross shows us the measure of God’s love. If you ever question how much you matter to God, look again at what He gave for your redemption.

Reflect & Respond: What does God’s willingness to give His Son tell you about your value to Him? How can you respond today to the love displayed at the cross?

Prayer: Father, I am grateful for the depth of Your love revealed at the cross. Thank You for giving Your Son so that I could be saved. Help me to live with the cross always before me. Amen.

### Wednesday – A RESPONSE OF FAITH - John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 3:14-15

God’s love and sacrifice invite a response. Jesus said that whoever believes in Him will be saved—this word “whoever” reminds us that salvation is available to all, without distinction. However, salvation is not automatic—it must be received by faith. Faith is not merely intellectual agreement; it is trust and reliance on what Christ has done. As Paul explains, we are saved by grace through faith, not by works. We do not contribute to our salvation; we receive it. The Christian life begins by faith and continues the same way. Our confidence before God rests entirely on the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Reflect & Respond: Are there areas of your life where you are relying on effort rather than faith? What would it look like to place deeper trust in Christ today?

Prayer: Father, thank You for saving me by grace through faith. Help me to trust fully in Christ and rely daily on what He has accomplished for me. Amen.

### Thursday - RESCUED FROM DEATH - John 3:16, Ephesians 2:4-7, Colossians 2:13-15

Jesus made it clear that without Him, humanity was on the path to perishing. The word “perish” comes from the Greek *apollymi*, meaning to be completely destroyed or lost. This describes the seriousness of our condition apart from Christ. But praise God—those who believe in Jesus will not perish. Through Christ, we have been rescued from spiritual death and made alive. Salvation is not merely forgiveness; it is resurrection life. God intervened when we could not save ourselves. Remember today that your life is the result of divine rescue. You are alive in Christ by grace.

Reflect & Respond: How does remembering your rescue shape the way you live? Is there an area of your life where God is calling you into deeper transformation?

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for rescuing me from death and making me alive in Christ. Help me live daily as one who has been redeemed by Your grace in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

**Friday - LIFE EVERLASTING - John 3:16, John 10:28, 1 John 5:13**

The final promise of John 3:16 is everlasting life. This is not merely life without end—it is the very life of God given to us through Christ. It is secure, unchanging, and rooted in Him. Everlasting life begins the moment we believe and continues into eternity. It reshapes how we live now, giving us hope beyond this world. Our salvation is not about material gain or temporary comfort, but about eternal union with God. This promise calls us to live with eternal perspective, grounded in Christ and filled with hope for what is to come.

Reflect & Respond: How does the promise of eternal life influence your daily priorities? What is one way you can live today with eternity in mind?

Prayer: Father, I thank You for the gift of everlasting life in Your Son. Help me to live with eternity in view and faithfulness in the present. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**FOR FAMILIES**

*Unpack this past Sunday's Next Gen at home to help your kids grow in their faith! Use a talk point in the car or around the table and have fun with the activities! Your home can THRIVE this week!*



**GAME: Upside Down**

One person calls out a normal school or kids activity moment:



- Someone drops their lunch tray.
- A new kid sits alone.
- A friend loses at a sport.
- You get the last snack.
- Someone says something unkind.

The next person has 5 seconds to shout out (or act out) a small thing they could do that would be BIG with Jesus.

**CRAFT: UPSIDE HEARTS**



**Supplies:** Paper, Markers/crayons, Scissors, Tape

**How to Make It:** Draw and cut out a large heart. At the top of the heart (right side up), write: "The World Says..."

Under it, write things like: Be first, Get noticed, Win no matter what, etc.

Flip the heart upside down. On the back write: "Jesus Says..." serve, be humble, give generously, love.

**DINNER TABLE OR CAR RIDE QUESTIONS:**



- What's something small you could give this week that might be big to God?
- Take turns naming things the world says are "big" or important and then flip it and say what Jesus might say is actually big. Talk about the difference and why.
- What's one "upside-down" choice you could make at school this week?
- If Jesus walked into your classroom or our home, what do you think He would notice?