

Follow up: God's love

Objective: students will know that God loves them, not because of what they do, but because of Jesus and what He has already done. His love is not conditional, but everlasting, for those who have accepted and trusted in Him.

Opening question: choose a soularim card that best describes what comes to mind when they think about God's love for them. *Focus on hearing how they view God's love for them, not on mankind. After students have selected a card ask have them share one reason why they chose that card. Listen well, to get a grasp on where each of your familia members are at in their understanding of God's love for them, not just there understanding of God's love for mankind.*

The bible has many verses expressing and reminding us of God's love, but it's not always easy to believe. When we mess up (which we will, because of our sinful nature) it can be easy to think that God no longer loves us—that we must “make up” for the sin that we have committed. We could spend our whole lives trying to “make up” for our sin, and not even come close to paying the price for our sin—God knew this, so He sent Jesus to pay the price for ALL of our sin. This may be hard to grasp, but it's true! **Read John 3:16-17.** You are not alone in questioning God's love for you. Here are people in the Bible who too have questions about God's love and faithfulness.

(Have different people in your familia look up these verses and talk about them)

- David cries out to God: “Do not forsake me when my strength fails” – Psalm 71:1-14
- Israelites question if God still loves them. –“I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.” – psalm 89:33
- Paul reminds young Timothy of God's faithfulness;” If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself” – 2 Timothy 2:13
- Isrealites fear that God has left them: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine.” – Isaiah 43:1
- The book of Hebrews talks about God's commitment: “I will never leave you or forsake you.”- Hebrews 13:5

God doesn't want us to be a roadblock in experiencing His love for us. If we get stuck in not forgiving ourselves, thinking we have sinned “too much” for the Lord to ever forgive us, we can miss out on experiencing His incredible love for us. He sent Jesus to pay the price for our sins, and has given us instructions on what to do when we do sin.

Think of the worst thing you have ever done, or some sins you are struggling with now. Write them out on the floor, with your finger. By acknowledging it and admitting it you have just brought that sin into the light. It's no longer in your head, but you have acknowledged it and labeled it! Have someone read 1 John 1:9.

As a follower of Jesus, these things are true of you—read 1 peter 2:9,10. *Have youre familia think about this for a little bit.*

APPLICATION: Ask—how are we going to apply what we learned today to our lives?

- **Read this scripture and memorize it!** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (romans 5:8)
- **Bring sin into the light:** When we hide our sin, it's difficult to experience freedom from it! Confess sin to the Lord, your familia leader or accountability partner, journal about it, etc...
- **Think about praying that the Lord would reveal sin in your life and His love for you. Remember we sin more than we'll ever know, and we are loved far more than we can imagine.**

Pray for each other.