



February 23 I am Loved

Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: God's Love Through Jesus- 1 John

Bottom Line: God Loves Always

Leader Context: We get to teach kids that the love of God is better and different than anything else. In this life, everything will come to an end, but God's love has no end. (Read 1 John 2:24-25.) God loves always, and when we trust and follow Him, we become children of God—now and forever! This is good news that kids can know and live out today!

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page,

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Videos

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

John wrote an incredible description of God's love. God's love is different than anything else. It never gives up on us, and it never ends. God loves always. But you may still be wondering, *How is God's love different?*

The word love is said a lot in our world today, isn't it? Love can seem like an emotion that is here one day and gone the next. People can say they are loving but then act very unloving. But God's love is different. Because God is love, we can know that **God loves always**. His love never stops, and it never changes. Point to yourself, and say, "I am loved!" (*I am loved!*) Now look at friend, and say, "God loves always!" (*God loves always!*) Let's pray and talk to God, thanking Him for His amazing and powerful love, in 3-2-1.

God, You are love, and that is amazing! Your love is different than the world's love because Your love lasts forever. Help us to remember Your amazing and forever love today. May Your love help us to love You and love others well. Amen!

Gospel Connection- Say This

Using the 4 Circles Gospel Art in your group space talk about how the story today relates to the circles.

(Circle one) God's love is different because God is the maker and designer of everything, even me and you. God made the world and everything in it, including us. When God designed the world in the beginning, it was perfect, and the first people God made had this amazing perfect relationship with Him. God loved them so much.

(Circle two) But even though God loved them so much, they chose to disobey God. The first two people, Adam and Eve, chose to break God's good plan for their lives by sinning. Sin is when we do what we think is best rather than what God says is best. And sin always starts with a heart that loves something else more than God. Because of sin, brokenness came into the world and messed everything up. It wasn't just Adam and Eve. All people struggle with sin, including you and me. But do you think that stops God's love? *(No!)* No! It doesn't!

(Circle three) The good news is that God loves people so much, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, into the world to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus died on a cross and came back to life three days later, meaning He defeated both sin and death.

God sent His one and only son, Jesus, into the world so we could have a relationship with God and live like Jesus. When we fail, make wrong choices, or disobey, God doesn't give up on us. Instead, God loves us always and helps us. Jesus is the greatest gift in the world, and through Him, we can have life forever. This forever love is available for anyone who responds to God's love by believing in Jesus as their Savior.

The only way we can really love is because God first loved us. God loved you from the very beginning when He made you. He will forgive you when you disobey and ask for forgiveness, and He will help you follow Him. Say, "I am loved!" *(I am loved!)* "God loves always!" *(God loves always!)*

(Circle four) God's love is different because it lasts forever, and He offers it even when we don't deserve it. It is an amazing, incredible, remarkable love that is unlike anything else! If you have questions about how to have a relationship with God through Jesus, your Campus Leaders and I would love to talk to you more about how God loves always.

God Loves Me Pennants — 20 Minutes

Kids will decorate pennants.

Big Goal: Kids will review all the ways God is love.

Leader Prep: Print two copies of the “God Loves Me Pennants” printable for each child. Cut yarn into 3-foot pieces, one piece per child. Set out supplies.

1. Position the point of the triangle facing down. Write the words *God loves me* and **God loves always**, one word on each triangle.
2. Decorate the triangles with pictures and images describing yourself.
3. Cut out the triangles.
4. Punch two holes at the top edge of each triangle, one toward the corner.
5. Weave yarn through the holes.
6. Place a small piece of tape on the back of the pennants to keep them in place.

Supplies: “God Loves Me Pennants” printable (2 per child), Child-safe scissors (1 per child), Markers or crayons (several), Hole punch (1 per group), Yarn (1 per child), Tape (1 per group)

What To Do: When you want to celebrate something special, you can make a pennant banner. These are usually flags that symbolize a victory or championship or to identify who someone is. So today, we are each going to make a pennant to remind us that **God loves always**.

First, with the point of the triangles facing down, write words on your pennant triangles. You'll write one word on each pennant: *I, am, loved, God, loves, and always*. After you write your words, decorate with pennants with things that describe you. You can write your name or draw a picture of yourself or of things you like. (*Allow time.*)

Once you decorate your pennants, cut them out. I'll help you punch two holes in the top of each pennant and thread yarn through them to hang the pennants. Once the yarn is threaded, you can put a small piece of tape on the back of each pennant to secure it to the yarn. You'll get to take these pennants home as a reminder of God's love for you.

Keep It Going: Invite kids to share their pennants and what they drew with the team.

Loud And Clear: I love how you powered up your creativity on these pennants. They help us remember we are loved by God and that **God loves always**. God didn't just tell us He loved us. God showed His love by sending His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins and make a way for us to have a forever relationship with Him. That's the best love ever!

Discussion Questions-

- What are some things you think you'd enjoy doing forever and ever? *(Allow kids to answer, and say your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us over and over that we are loved by God, and **God loves always.** Let's open our Bibles to **1 John 2:24-25** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* These Bible verses say that if we hold to and believe the truth about Jesus, we can have life with God forever. How can God's promise of eternal life be encouraging to you? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- How can God's never-ending love make a difference in our lives when things are difficult? What about when things are good? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- If a friend is wondering, *How is God's love different?* how could today's Bible story help answer that question? *(God's love last forever, and we experience that forever love through Jesus. God's love helps us be more like Him and love others too.)*
- The Bible tells us God loves us with a forever kind of love. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)* Let's talk to God by praying. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

God, Your love is different from all the other kinds of loves we know. You love us so much that You gave up Your Son for us. Jesus took the punishment for our sin, even though we didn't deserve it. That is amazing love! Thank You that when we trust and follow Jesus, we can live in Your love forever. Help us to know that Your love lasts always. Amen.

Say: Even though we are not perfect, and we sin, we are loved by God. Jesus came to rescue us from sin. That's a power-up kind of love.

Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.