LOVES

BIG IDEA

Do you think God *likes* you? Does he care about you? Does he want the best for you?

If you could slip a love note on to God's desk, what do you think he would check, yes or no, that he loves you?

SCRIPTURE

Read and reflect on the key Scripture from this week: Romans 5:7-8, John 15:13 and Genesis 5:1. God desires for you to be in his presence! This is what you were created to experience and enjoy. Part of being in his presence is that there is no death, scarcity or lack of love.

QUESTIONS

- Take a moment to review the "Jesus Loves Me" summary card on pages 3 and 4 of this study guide. This week we are studying the word *LOVES*. Was there an idea under this word that surprised you, encouraged you, or that you're not sure you agree with?
- How can you *really* know if someone *actually* loves you?
- How do you communicate love to people you love?
- Who else do you look to, other than God, for affirmation, self-value and security?
- Think about a time when you've wondered, *Does God really love me?* What were you experiencing? What was the moment like?
- What is the biggest self sacrificing action that you could make for someone you love?
- Jesus died to prove he loved you. Who in your life would you be willing to die for?

QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- Why is Jesus dying on the cross necessary to restore us?
 (See references about the atonement.)
- The way to the kingdom God is a narrow road opened to everyone. Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Eternal life begins now, because you've been made right to your creator. He has met your needs of to be loved, accepted and secure. Do you know for certain that you have received this gift?

TAKEAWAY

Where do you find yourself today? 1) Separated from God? 2) You've had a moment where you've stepped out in faith in believing in what Christ has done for you or 3) You know with certainty that you have eternal life both now and in the future.

To receive this gift of salvation, you have to humble yourself before God, admitting you can't fix yourself or your relationships. Have you received this gift by declaring that Jesus Christ is Lord and believing in your heart that God raised him from the dead? What would keep you from receiving the free gift of salvation? If you have believed this but have not yet been baptized, please contact *valerie.sipe@connectionpointe.org*

If you're believing this for the first time, please contact brad.ogden@connectionpointe.org



JESUS

Fully God and Fully Man

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:28 Matthew 16:15-16 John 1:1-4

LOVES

Came into our world on a rescue mission. He died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 5:7, 8 Romans 3:23 Romans 6:23 Romans 10:9-11

ME

To receive salvation in Jesus, I must own my mistakes and need for His help. Where sin has corrupted me, Jesus can restore me into the image of God.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:17 Romans 6:23 Ephesians 2: 8, 9 Romans 5:17

THIS I KNOW

I cannot earn salvation, but I must use my will to admit my need, acknowledge Jesus as God, believe in His work on the cross and receive His gift of salvation. After I receive salvation by faith, I express my belief in Jesus through baptism.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 1:16 Romans 10:9-11 Ephesians 2:8-9 Mark 16:16 Acts 8:12

FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

To fully experience my new identity in Christ and my freedom from sin, I choose to make God's Word the standard for all I will do and believe. The truths of the Bible are of life-or-death importance.

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16 Romans 15:4 2 Peter 1:21 Psalm 19:7-11