

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

A Got Questions Ministries Mini Bible Study



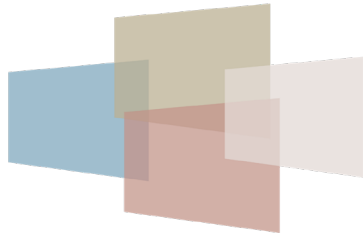


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How to Use This Mini Bible Study

Welcome to the Got Questions Ministries Bible Study! We're so glad you're here!

In these studies you will find content questions to grow your understanding, Bible search questions to dig deeper, and heartfelt questions to spark reflection and discussion. Whether you are a new or seasoned believer, using these Bible studies for personal study or as a small group/Sunday School resource, we hope you will increase in your understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ and that you will seek Him more passionately.

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
– Jeremiah 29:13

These Bible studies are tools to help you grow in your knowledge of the topics at hand. However, knowing about God is not the same as actually knowing Him. God invites each of us to know Him personally and to

Throughout this study, there will be information to read and questions to answer. Next to the questions will be icons. Here is your key to understanding them:



Content Qs



Engage Qs



Bible Look Up Qs



Reflection Qs

have eternal life through Him.

If we place our faith in Him, trusting in His death on the cross to pay for our sins, we will be forgiven and receive the promise of eternal life in heaven.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son so that anyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.
– John 3:16

If you have not yet trusted in Him for salvation or are unsure if you are saved, please visit: www.gotquestions.org/eternal-life.html.

May God richly bless you as you seek to study His Word and grow in your walk with Him (Joshua 1:8)!





Lesson 1:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

*I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.
The cords of death entangled me,
the anguish of the grave came over me;
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.
Then I called on the name of the LORD:
“LORD, save me!”*

*The LORD is gracious and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
The LORD protects the unwary;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
Return to your rest, my soul,
for the LORD has been good to you.*

Psalm 116:1-7



Read the verses above. What do they reveal about loving God?



For what specifically does the psalmist love the Lord? How does his love for the Lord impact his actions?



For what specifically do you love the Lord?



Looking at your list of why you love the Lord, what does each reason compel you to do?



Spend some time praying and praising God for why you love Him. Praise Him for His character and actions. Let His love compel you to intentional action this week.



Lesson 2: LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his command is that you walk in love. commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his

2 John 1:6



Read the verse above. What does it reveal about loving God?



According to this verse, what is love? What does that look like practically?



What is the connection between love and obedience?



When has obeying been difficult for you? How would taking to heart the connection between love and obedience have given you a different perspective?



Reflect on your obedience to God. How does it reflect your love for the Lord? If there is an area where you need to repent, do so, and ask the Holy Spirit to enable you to obey Him out of love, not obligation.



Lesson 3:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

“Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

Mark 12:28-34



Read the passage above. What does it reveal about loving God and loving others?



What does it practically look like to love the Lord the way this passage tells us?



What does it practically look like to love others the way this passage tells us?



How does loving God and loving others sum up the law, sacrifices, and the prophets?



How does your life reflect loving God and loving others? What would you say is the purpose for your life? Consider writing a purpose statement for your life, including loving God and loving others and how you personally do that.



Lesson 4:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice

for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:7-12



Read the verses above. What do they reveal about loving God and loving others?



What is the connection between the love of God and loving others?



What do these verses say is love?



Do you struggle to love others? How would reflecting on God's love for us change the way you love others?



What does the way you love others reveal about your love for the Lord and His love in you? How could you intentionally love God or others more fully this week?



Lesson 5:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for our brothers and sisters. And we ought to lay down our lives for them. 1 John 3:16



Read the verse above. What does it reveal about loving God and loving others?



How does Christ's demonstration of love change the way we love others?



What has been the most meaningful expression of love in your life? What about it made you feel so loved?



In what ways is God calling you to lay down your life for others? Ask the Holy Spirit to help God's love strengthen you as you do so.



Lesson 6:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do

good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:27-36



Read the passage above. What does it reveal about loving God and loving others?



How does this passage push your understanding of love?



How does loving others, including your enemies, reveal the love of the Father to the world?



Who in your life is hard to love right now? How do these verses change your perspective in the way you treat and interact with them?



Are there any people in your life whom you would consider or who would consider you to be an enemy? How could you practically show love to them to reflect the love of God?



Lesson 7:

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because

a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

John 15:9-17



Read the passage above. What does it reveal about loving God and loving others?



What specific examples has Jesus set for us to love others according to this passage?



How can we love each other? What other passages from Scripture show us what that looks like?



Think about the way you love others. How would others describe that love? How does it match up to the Father's love for us? In what ways this week can you specifically and intentionally love others more like Christ?



Wrap Up

Now that you have studied seven lessons on loving God and loving others, take some time to reflect on what you've learned and how you will put what you've learned into practice.



How has your understanding of loving God and loving others changed or expanded as a result of what you've learned through this study?



What will you change in your life as a result of this study?



Who in your life would you like to see grow in their understanding of loving God and loving others? Commit to praying for them. What will you share with them about what you have learned?