

# Hillsong KIDS



BIG PICTURE:

GOD  
LOVES  
YOU

TELL THE WORLD

## LEADER'S GUIDE

OLDER CHILDREN

**BIG PICTURE:**

GOD LOVES YOU

**BIG IDEA:**

IN 'MY' BEGINNING

**BIG POINT:**

GOD LOVES ME, CREATED ME AND KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT ME

**BIG WORD:**

AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

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**DOCUMENT PURPOSE**

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture GOD LOVES YOU TTW1.1. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE' and all leaders information you need to run a successful small group in your children's ministry.

The BIG 'Tell The World' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that they were created by God and that they are valuable to Him.
- Know how much God loves them and that He shows this by His interest in us, even numbering the very hairs on their head.
- Understand that they were created by God on purpose and for a purpose.

**BIG POINT:** GOD LOVES ME, CREATED ME AND KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT ME.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

### INTRO

To introduce today's **BIG IDEA:** "IN 'MY' BEGINNING", choose three children with different hair types to join you at the front of the group. Ask the children to guess how many hairs your helpers have on their heads. After they have had a turn at guessing, point out the different hair types and the approximate number of strands they would have: BLONDE - 140,000 strands; BROWN - 110,000 strands; BLACK - 108,000 strands; RED - 90,000 strands.

God knows the exact amount of hair on our heads; He loves even the small details of our lives. Even when we lose up to 100 hairs a day, He keeps count (Note: A perfect opportunity to insert a bald joke, at your own, or a long suffering team member's expense).

### STORYTELLING

- Involve the children in a short retelling of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2).
- Dress up one of the children as baby Jesus (put a sheet around them, or have them wear a diaper/nappy).
- Dress up other children as animals, shepherds, wise men and have them visit Jesus.
- Take the time to demonstrate that all this happened, just at His birth!

God sent out angels, organised wise men to come from hundreds of miles away with baby gifts... what a great Dad in heaven we have! He looked after the smallest details of His only Son's birth. In order for us to understand how much we are loved by God, we need to realise how much God loved Jesus, as He gave up Jesus, His only Son... for us.

### Scripture References:

Jeremiah 31:3

Psalms 139

Matthew 10:29-31

Mark 16:15

Luke 2:1-20

Luke 12:6-7

John 3:16

John 18:28-40

Romans 5:8

Romans 8:28

Romans 8:35

Ephesians 3:18

1 Peter 5:7

**OBJECT LESSON****'Hammer Time'**

Show the children a big red juicy tomato. Explain that this tomato is going on your sandwich for lunch, but first you are going to need to slice it up.

1. *A drill*

Drill a big hole into one of the tomatoes (be sure to make a big mess). Ask the group if they think this was the best way to slice the tomato, and if it could go on the sandwich.

2. *A hammer (the bigger the better!)*

Using a second tomato, smash it up with the hammer, making a big mess. Ask the children if a hammer was the best thing to use to slice the tomato, and if it could go on the sandwich.

3. *A knife*

Using the third tomato, take the knife and slice it into perfect clean slices. Announce proudly that this tomato is perfect for your sandwich. (Be mindful to put the knife in a safe place after use).

Just like these different tools, we have all been created for a purpose. The drill can drive a screw into wood; it has been created for that special purpose. The hammer can drive a nail into wood, it has been created for that special purpose. The knife has also been created for a special purpose and look how great it was at doing what it was created for! Each of us have been designed and created by God for His purpose.

**POINTS**1. *You are one of a kind.*

You are created by God and are valuable to Him (Psalm 139). God has created each person individually unique and special, you are His most precious creation.

God knows how many hairs you have (or don't have) on your head. He cares even for the birds, and each one of us is worth more to Him than many birds (Luke 12:6-7 NIV).

2. *God is interested in your life.*

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus (Romans 5:8 NIV). He died on the cross for every person who has lived and will ever live. He is interested in every part of your life. No matter how small and insignificant we think something is, God is interested. He cares for us, can help us and we can talk to God about anything and everything at any time (1 Peter 5:7 NIV).

3. *You were created on purpose for a purpose.*

You are no accident; you are designed by God. He doesn't want you to try and be somebody else. He wants you to be you (Romans 8:28 NIV). God works through everything that happens in your life to fulfil His purpose in you. You have your own unique way to tell the world about Him! (Mark 16:15 NIV).

**Supplies Needed:**

Screwdriver/electric drill

Hammer

Knife

Three tomatoes

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that they were created by God and that they are valuable to Him.
- Know how much God loves them and that He shows this by His interest in them, even numbering the very hairs of their head.
- Understand that they were created by God on purpose and for a purpose.

**BIG POINT:** GOD LOVES ME, CREATED ME AND KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT ME.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

### CONNECT TIME

*Alliteration name game*

Each child says their name followed by which holiday destination they would like to go to and the food they would like to take with them (all of which must begin with the same letter of the alphabet as their name), E.g. I'm Melanie and I'm taking marshmallows to Morocco.

### THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. Can you think of some of the ways that God provides for us?

Discuss with your group some everyday needs that He makes provision for. Can you share with the children a time in your life where God has provided for you in a miraculous way?

2. What does Jesus dying on the cross mean to you?

Encourage the children to think about what this means personally for each one of them. Some children might be thinking that they are undeserving of God's grace and that His forgiveness is for everyone else except them. Emphasise that Jesus died for everybody and for everything they have ever done wrong. Nothing is too big for God to forgive.

3. Why do you think people are created with so many differences between them?

God is a creative God and for His pleasure, He has made us all different. Imagine a world where every person looked, sounded and acted the same.

4. What is something that is unique about you?

Tell the children something that is unique about yourself. What is something that you are good at? What have your talents enabled you to achieve?

## ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the Activity Sheets in this time.

## THE BIG ACTIVITY

**Purpose:** To understand that God created them with a purpose.

**Directions:** Give the children 5 minutes to build a creative object or item. When their time is up, spend a few minutes discussing and admiring each group's creation – the most original creation is the winner.

**Explanation:** When God created us He put time and thought into what we would be like. He loves His creation, and knows everything about us.

## THE BIG WORD

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is. Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

Today is the first day for this new verse, so practise the Big Word as a group by saying it one line at a time, with the children repeating after you.

## GAME

*Stuck in the Mud*

One person is 'IT'. You have an area marked out which no one can step out of. When a person is caught, they have to stand where they are until someone who isn't caught, crawls between their legs, making them both free. If the person who is 'IT' can't catch everyone, choose a second person to help them.

## PRAYER

If we can help our children to understand that God is their Creator and He knows them better than anyone, then they will never have to feel alone or that no-one understands them. Let the group repeat this prayer after you:

*Lord, You created me and You know all the secret things in my heart. Only You know the person I am and the person I will be. You understand me and everything that happens in my life. You created me on purpose. Please help me understand my purpose as I grow. Thank you Lord.*

*Amen*

**Supplies Needed:**  
*Playdough, paper, straws, newspaper, old boxes, any type of construction materials.*

### BIG PICTURE:

GOD LOVES YOU

### BIG IDEA:

FALLING OVER

### BIG POINT:

GOD LOVES ME TOO MUCH TO LEAVE ME IN SIN

### BIG WORD:

AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)



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### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

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## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that sin has separated each of us from God and His purposes in our lives.
- See Jesus Christ as the solution to our reconciliation to God.

**BIG POINT:** GOD LOVES ME TOO MUCH TO LEAVE ME IN SIN.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

### INTRO

To introduce today's **BIG IDEA:** 'FALLING OVER', use the largest dice you can find, (if you can't find one, why don't you make a huge one!), tell the children that you are going to discover who is the best and holiest child in the room. Explain that the higher the number they roll, the better they are. After getting a few children to roll the dice and making comment on how good or bad they are, roll it yourself (hoping to get a number one for the big laughs). Then explain no matter how good we THINK we are, God's standard is a seven and no matter how long we roll the dice, we could never hope to roll a seven! No matter how good we are, our sin separates us from Jesus. The only way to hit God's standard is by surrendering our lives to Jesus!

Sin is exactly that, falling short, missing the mark, falling down in our attempt to live a 'good life'.

### STORY TELLING

This is the story of a tree, a tree so special it had a name. The 'tree of the knowledge of good and evil'. It enjoyed a privileged position in the centre of the most incredible garden the world has ever seen, the Garden of Eden. The most amazing thing about this tree was the fruit that grew on its branches. This fruit gave knowledge of good and evil to anyone who ate it.

Occasionally a man could be seen nearby the tree, but not once did he try and eat some of the fruit. The man had been kept busy naming the animals, and God had also commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Pretty soon, man was joined by woman (a girl helper) because it was not good for man to be alone.

The tree spent a lonely existence until the terrible day that it all changed; the entry of the serpent (child/leader dressed as a serpent - get the audience booing).

### Scripture References:

Genesis 3  
Psalm 40:12  
Matthew 26:28  
John 3:16  
Romans 3:12-14  
Romans 3:23-24  
Romans 5:8  
Romans 6:23  
Romans 8:1-2  
Romans 8:32  
Romans 10:9  
Colossians 2:13-14  
Hebrews 10:10

The serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord had made, and unlike the man and woman, spent a lot of time near the tree... wrapped around it in fact (serpent wraps around the tree's legs). Its goal in life seemed to be to get the man and woman to eat fruit from the tree.

The day finally came when our serpent enticed the woman near to the tree and deceived her. "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from the tree, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to the man and he ate it also.

That was the last time the man, woman and the serpent were ever seen near the tree. They had been cast out of the garden into the wilderness.

Both Adam and Eve had a simple choice to obey or disobey God. After they made the choice to rebel, mankind was separated from God; something that would not be fixed until thousands of years later through Jesus. (Thank all the helpers and have them return to their seats.)

## OBJECT LESSON

### 'All Tied Up'

Using a child volunteer, have them tie the rope firmly around your wrists. Explain that you are looking at what sin does to us. Sin can look attractive. If it didn't, then no one would sin – doesn't it feel good to point out when someone else is wrong. Doesn't it feel great when you are proved right! Explain that pride in our lives only ties us up more in sin (have the helper tie rope a little more around your arms). Here is how sin affects us.

#### 1. Firstly, sin affects our heart.

In Psalms, David writes "For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me" (Psalm 40:12 NIV).

It leads to guilt, feeling ashamed, greed and feelings which make a heart heavy (helper wraps rope around shoulders).

#### 2. Secondly, sin affects our relationship with others.

"All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves; their tongues practise deceit...Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know." (Romans 3:12-14 NIV).

Sin creates envy, jealousy, fear, misunderstanding, pride, deceit and arrogance, for example (helper wraps rope around waist).

#### 3. Thirdly, sin affects our relationship with God.

"The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23 NIV) (Helper wraps rope all the way down to legs, until you are standing completely tied up by the rope.

### Supplies Needed:

Long rope (climbing, or tug-of-war if possible)

But the cross of Christ is more than enough to cover our sins... past, present and future.

Invite a leader to represent Jesus and untie you as you read out the following verses:

"Jesus said, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'" (Matthew 26:28 NIV)

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:1-2 NIV)

"When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross." (Colossians 2:13-14 NIV)

"He sacrificed for their sins once for all when He offered Himself." (Hebrews 7:27b NIV)

"And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Hebrews 10:10 NIV)

We are completely freed from sin because of Jesus; we are free to do all that He has called us to do! (You will now be untied and able to move freely.)

## POINTS

### 1. *We didn't follow the instructions.*

Genesis 3:11 talks about how God asked Adam and Eve to follow His instructions and not to eat from the tree. They only had one rule to keep but they broke it. We can try to make the right choices, like obeying our mother and father, being kind to others and telling the truth, but we will make mistakes and wrong decisions. God created us to be in relationship with Him, but we have all sinned and fallen over. We have gone our own way and sin has separated us from God.

### 2. *All have sinned.*

It's easy to look at other people's mistakes and think that we are better than them because we do not do those things. But according to God, even when we tell the smallest lie, it is still wrong in His eyes. Even when we live our life trying to do everything right, we can still do wrong things. The Bible says in Romans 3:23 that everyone has fallen short of His standards.

### 3. *It's your choice.*

God had a rescue plan for humanity... it was Jesus! Right from the beginning God had a plan up his sleeve. He loves us so much, even more than we love our parents, our brothers, our sisters or our friends. That kind of love is hard to imagine! Jesus gave up His life on earth by dying on the cross so that all of the wrong things we have done can be taken away. For God so loved the world that He gave his only son (John 3:16). He leaves the final decision up to us; WE have to do something. "That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that sin has separated each of us from God and His purposes in our lives.
- See Jesus Christ as the solution to our reconciliation to God.

**BIG POINT:** GOD LOVES ME TOO MUCH TO LEAVE ME IN SIN.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

### CONNECT TIME

*Lip reading*

Children take turns 'mouthing' the lyrics of a song that is sung in church or the children's program, without making any sounds. The other children try to guess which song it is.

### THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. How do you feel when you do the wrong thing?

We know that we all make mistakes from time to time. Sometimes we can feel angry, embarrassed, ashamed or disappointed. We need to remember that we can learn from our mistakes but not to keep feeling bad about it. Because Jesus died on the cross, we don't need to carry the shame with us any more.

2. What happens when God forgives us?

He has forgiven us for the things we have done wrong. This means that He puts our mistakes (sins) behind us as though they never happened and gives us a brand new start! Every unkind word we've ever spoken and every bad thought we've ever had, there is nothing that God can't forgive.

3. Knowing that God forgives us, how should we treat others when they make mistakes?

Because God has given us a brand new start by forgiving all of our mistakes (sin), then we need to forgive other people of their mistakes as well. Sometimes people can hurt our feelings and make us feel bad by their actions, but if God can forgive us then we should forgive them too.

## ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the Activity Sheets in this time.

## THE BIG ACTIVITY

**Purpose:** For the children to see that sin separates us from God

**Directions:** Divide the children into 2 groups. One group is blindfolded. The children who are not blindfolded are free to walk about the room. The challenge is for the blindfolded children to catch a child on the other team i.e. children who are not blindfolded.

**Explanation:** Sin is a bit like the blindfold - the blindfold separated you from your friends and made it difficult to find your way. In the same way, sin separates us from God and makes it difficult for us to lead a life God would be happy with.

## THE BIG WORD

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is. Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

The leader writes out the memory verse on a large piece of paper with the following words missing from the verse: may, power, wide, love, long and high. Have the children read the verse aloud and fill in the missing words.

## GAME

*Rob the nest*

Choose four contestants and place in front of each one a bucket with 4 balls in it. In one minute the contestants have to try to get as many balls as possible into their bucket by taking from other people's buckets. They can only carry one ball at a time and cannot stop people pulling balls out of their bucket or cover their bucket in any way. The winner is the person with the most balls in their bucket after one minute. Run the game several times to get a grand champion!

## PRAYER

Understanding sin is difficult for people of any age, so by knowing from childhood that God hasn't left you in that sin if you ask for his forgiveness, is a powerful revelation. Encourage the children to think about something they have done wrong and then pray the following;

*Thank you God for not leaving us in sin by sending your Son Jesus to free us. I ask that you forgive me of the things I have done wrong and I thank you that you are always with me, guiding me along the right path.*

*Amen*

**Supplies Needed:**  
Blindfolds

**Supplies Needed:**

4 buckets

16 balls (tennis ball size)

**Note:** In order to make this game more adventurous, replace the balls with other objects such as tomatoes, water balloons, eggs, etc.

### BIG PICTURE:

GOD LOVES YOU

### BIG IDEA:

LIFE OF LOVE

### BIG POINT:

JESUS' LIFE SHOWS ME HOW TO LIVE

### BIG WORD:

AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)



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## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Have learnt that Jesus lived a sinless and exemplary life, showing love to all people.
- Begin to understand how much Jesus loved others and that He showed this through His actions.
- Recognise that we should follow His example by showing love to the people in our world by the way we treat them.

**BIG POINT:** JESUS' LIFE SHOWS ME HOW TO LIVE.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

### INTRO

To introduce today's **BIG IDEA:** 'LIFE OF LOVE', start by asking the children, "What is love?" Invite some responses then explain; many people have tried to describe love, but it is very hard to define. The Bible puts it very simply, 'God is love' (1 John 4:8,16). Of all the ways we see love around us here on earth, nothing compares to God's love. It's more than just saying nice things to people, it's more than sharing, it's more than obeying, it's more than being a friend.

Find out some 'more than' statements from the children, ask them to finish the statement, 'God's love is 'more than...' Then ask them how they can live lives that are 'more than...'

Living a 'more than' life for God is:

- Loving those who are mean to us
- Not just helping others, but going the extra mile
- Giving to others even when it costs us

Read 1 John 4:16 (NIV): "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him." God's love is in US, that is how we can love others!

### STORY TELLING

*Share with the children the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet from John 13:1 – 17. (paraphrased below)*

It was time for the Passover Feast when Jesus and the disciples gathered for the meal. People would bathe before going to a special meal, however as they would wear sandals, their feet would get very dirty on the way there. It was customary at these sort of celebrations for a slave to wash people's feet.

Jesus and the disciples all went to the table for the meal and relaxed. They were chatting and talking with each other and as the meal was beginning to be served Jesus stood up from the table. The disciples looked around at each other and

### Scripture References:

Proverbs 4:18

Matthew 19:13-14

Matthew 22:37-40

John 10:10

John 13:1-17

John 13:31-38

Luke 19:1-10

Galatians 2:20

1 John 3:18

1 John 4:8,16

wondered what was going on. Then Jesus took off his outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. (This is normally what a servant would do!) He went to the side of the room and poured some water into a basin. He then went over to the table and began to wash the dirty feet of the disciples.

Jesus made his way around the table washing their feet and drying them with the towel that was wrapped around his waist. When he got to Simon Peter, Simon Peter said, "Lord are you going to wash my feet?" Slaves were looked down upon in biblical times and Peter could not stand the thought of Jesus, his teacher, doing the work of a slave. Jesus was showing the disciples that they are called to serve others.

He said to them "Do you understand what I've done? You call me your teacher and Lord, and you should, because that is who I am. And if your Lord and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you."

## OBJECT LESSON

**'How Does It Feel?'** Choose two children who are confident and outgoing and invite them to join you upfront. Explain to both children that they will have a message stuck onto their backs (but don't tell them what it says). One message says, 'Talk to me, give me high fives, give me hugs, tell me what you like about me.' The other message says, 'Ignore me', or 'Don't talk to me'. The rest of the group read the messages and then choose a few more volunteers to come up and follow what the messages say. After a few minutes of them interacting, have them sit down and ask each child who had the message on their back, how they felt throughout the exercise. Then let them read the messages. Discuss how it feels to be loved and how it feels to be ignored.

## POINTS

### 1. Love God.

When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, He replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37 NIV) We can show our love to God by how we obey His Word, worship Him, and spend time with Him growing in our relationship with Him.

### 2. Love People.

The second greatest commandment is to love your neighbour as yourself (Matthew 22:39). Do you think you truly LOVE others? 1 John 3:18 (NLT) says, "Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions." Loving others is to treat them in the same way that you would want to be treated and preferring others above yourself. Jesus' life is a perfect example of how to show love. As we grow in our relationship with Christ we are more able to treat others just like Jesus would, even if they are hard to love! By following His example we can learn to live this life of love.

### 3. Love Life.

Jesus said in John 10:10 (NIV) "I have come so that you may have life, and have it to the full." God wants us to live a life of love and to love our life! What an incredible life we have been given to live. Living our lives the way God intended can be an opportunity to tell the world about God.

### Supplies Needed:

Two large paper signs

Tape

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Have learnt that Jesus lived a sinless and exemplary life, showing love to all people.
- Begin to understand how much Jesus loved others and that He showed this through His actions.
- Recognise that we should follow His example by showing love to the people in our world by the way we treat them.

**BIG POINT:** JESUS' LIFE SHOWS ME HOW TO LIVE.

**BIG WORD:** "AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS." EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

### CONNECT TIME

'I went on holiday'

Moving through the alphabet from A - Z, each child says, 'I went on holiday and I took a ...' The animal begins with A, e.g. Alligator. The next child says 'I went on holiday and took an alligator and a ...' The animal needs to begin with B. Each child has to remember the previous animals and then say their animal.

### THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. What are some ways that you can show love to other people, especially those who you don't normally play with?
2. Can you think of any Bible stories where Jesus showed love to people?
  - Jesus healed people when they were sick.
  - He went into the homes of people who weren't very popular and had meals with them.
  - He spent time with people who nobody else spent time with and showed us how to treat other people.
3. When we make mistakes in the way we treat people, what should we do?

Ask God to forgive us and say sorry to the person who we have hurt. We should also pray and ask God to help us make the right choices and have the right actions.

4. After listening to today's message, what are some changes that you could make to the way that you interact with your family and friends?

#### **Leader Tip:**

*Always use a child's name when speaking to them. This shows them that they are valued and makes them feel special.*

## ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the Activity Sheets in this time.

## THE BIG ACTIVITY

**Purpose:** Follow Jesus' example.

**Directions:** Play a game of 'Follow the Leader' or 'Simon Says'.

**Explanation:** In order to win the game, you need to follow the leader's actions. God wants us to copy Jesus' actions and examples because He showed love to others through what He did.

## THE BIG WORD

"And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is." Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

Actions competition – Divide your group into two and have a competition to see which group can say the whole verse and do the actions without messing it up!

## GAME

*Copy*

Ask the children to sit in a circle. One child leaves the circle while the group decides which person should be 'IT'. The person who is 'IT' does an action whilst everyone copies. The person sent outside comes back into the room and stands in the middle. They need to try to guess who it is who keeps changing the actions that everyone is copying.

## PRAYER

We want all young people to shape their lives with love, but it can be difficult at times in today's society. When we have Jesus as our example, living a life of love is possible.

Tell the kids a story about you doing something unloving and how that hurt you and maybe others around you.

*Dear Jesus, I pray that you help me to be more like you. I thank you for your word that shows me your life as my example of how to live and thank you for always being with me. I love you Jesus.*

*Amen*

### BIG PICTURE:

GOD LOVES YOU

### BIG IDEA:

GOD SO LOVED

### BIG POINT:

JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS FOR YOU AND FOR ME

### BIG WORD:

AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)



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### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture GOD LOVES YOU TTW1.4. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE' and all leaders information you need to run a successful small group in your children's ministry.

The BIG 'Tell The World' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross, to take the punishment for our sins.
- Understand the Grace of God; that we did not do anything to deserve this free gift of salvation but that it came out of His great love and grace towards us.

**BIG POINT:** JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS FOR ME AND FOR YOU.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

### INTRO

*Supplies Needed: Red hearts cut out, markers, red material or sheet.*

To introduce today's **BIG IDEA:** 'GOD SO LOVED':

- Give each child a red heart (approx A4/US letter size), or hand out a number to leaders sitting with the children.
- Ask the leaders or children to write on their heart a list of the things that they love more than anything else in the world, e.g. names of their family and friends, etc.
- Explain that each heart represents all the love they have for the people on their lists. Get each person to hold the small red heart close to their own heart tightly.
- Throw over the entire group a huge piece of red material (e.g. a sheet or blanket, or anything else that is large and red). Explain that as big as our love is for our family, Jesus' love (like that large sheet) is far longer and wider and deeper than our love is for each other.

### STORYTELLING

*Tell the story of Jesus going to the cross, taking the children on a journey as you tell it. Make the various settings in the story around your room or even throughout areas of your church using props and even actors dressed up.*

*The Last Supper (Matthew 26:27 – 35)*

It was the night before Jesus' death and He and the disciples shared together a special meal. While they were eating the meal, Jesus picked up the bread gave thanks and then broke it into pieces and gave it out to the disciples. He said "Take and eat, this is my body". Then He picked up the cup, gave thanks and offered it to the disciples saying "Drink from this cup; this is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Although the disciples didn't fully

### Scripture References:

Joshua 24:14

Psalms 29:1-2

Matthew 26-28

Luke 23-24

John 3:16

John 14:2

Romans 3:23

Romans 5:8

Romans 6:13

Romans 10:9

Galatians 2:20

Ephesians 3:18

1 John 1:9

1 John 3:1

1 John 4:9

1 Peter 4:8

2 Peter 1:2

understand what Jesus was saying, in time they would understand He was using them to represent His death for their sins.

*Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-55)*

Jesus went with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane. He told them all to sit while He went off to pray. He returned to the other disciples and he found them all asleep! He woke them up and told them to stay awake and keep praying. This happened three times. Jesus woke them up after the third time and while they were talking, Judas, who was about to betray Jesus, appeared with soldiers and officials and they arrested Jesus.

*Jesus before Pilate (Matthew 27:11-26)*

Jesus was taken as a prisoner to Pilate along with the chief priests who accused Him of doing wrong, but He gave no answer to their accusations. As was the custom, Pilate said to the crowd that had gathered, "Who do you want to release? Jesus or this other prisoner Barabbas?" (Barabbas was a well known criminal.) They all shouted, "We want to release Barabbas!" Pilate said to them, "What should we do with Jesus then?" and they answered, "Crucify him!"

*Jesus Crucified (Matthew 27:32-44)*

The soldiers mocked Jesus; beating Him, twisting a crown of thorns and pushing it onto His head. Then they led Him away to be crucified. He was to conquer death and pay the penalty for all so that every single person could be reunited with God.

*The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1-20)*

Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb. The guards rolled a huge stone over the opening. Early in the morning Jesus' mother and Mary Magdalene went to the cave where Jesus' body was buried. When they got there the stone was rolled away and Jesus' body was gone! An angel appeared to them and said, "Do not be afraid, He is not here, He has risen." They were so full of joy that they ran to tell Peter and the disciples.

## OBJECT LESSON

*Love – No matter what.*

Show the children a photo of a parent and a child. (You could use a photo from your family if that applies.) Tell the children about how much the parent loves their child and would do anything for them. They would stay up all night with them when they are sick, love spending time with them and no matter how naughty they can be sometimes, they still love them, no matter what.

God loves us more than we can imagine. He loves everybody no matter who they are or what sorts of things they have done in their lives. We know that He loves us because of what He has done for us. Knowing that none of us were able to keep His high standard (Romans 3:23), God sent Jesus to earth to die on the cross for us (Romans 5:8; John 3:16).

Through accepting Jesus and what He has done for us, we can have our sins washed away and be made clean before God (Romans 10:9; 1 John 1:9). Through God's love we also have the ability to grow in God (2 Peter 1:2) and share eternal life with Him in Heaven (Romans 6:23; John 14:2).

**POINTS***1. God loves the world.*

God's love is not just for me, it's for everyone. It is hard to imagine the kind of love God has for us. 1 John 3:1 (NLT) "See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are!" Nothing we have ever done could make God love us less and nothing we can ever do can make God love us more (Ephesians 3:18). He loves everybody equally and unconditionally.

*2. God sent Jesus for my salvation.*

His sacrifice gives me life. When God gave up His only Son, He sacrificed the most important thing to Him so that we could have a friendship with God. 1 John 4:9 says God showed how much He loved us by sending His only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. It doesn't matter how many wrong things someone may have done, when Jesus died, He took ALL sin upon Himself. (1 Peter 4:8). God loves all of us so much that He made a way for every single one of us to receive salvation.

*3. Believing in Jesus means living for Him.*

Jesus offers us friendship. When we become Jesus' friend, we follow Him. We pray, listen, read the Bible and worship Him in everything that we do. When we spend time with Jesus we start thinking the way He thinks and we become more like Him. Galatians 2:20 (NLT) says, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." Live a life that honours Him. (Joshua 24:14, Psalm 29:1-2).

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins.
- Understand the Grace of God; that we did not do anything to deserve this free gift of salvation but that it came out of His great love and grace towards us.

**BIG POINT:** JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS FOR YOU AND FOR ME.

**BIG WORD:** AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)

## KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

### CONNECT TIME

Ask the children to line themselves up by height, in alphabetical order by first name, or by birth date. When they have finished, encourage them that the better they know each other, the easier tasks are.

### THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. Why did Jesus die on the cross?
2. Can you think of a time where you have given up something you've loved so that someone else could have it?

Can you think of an example in your own life where you can explain to the children something you've sacrificed. How did it feel to be able to bless someone with your money, time, etc. Did it leave you with less or did God bless you with more as a consequence?

3. What does it mean to you to follow Jesus?

In biblical times, people physically left their jobs, their homes, their families, and everything they knew to follow Jesus and listen to Him. As Jesus isn't present physically on the earth, in what ways can we follow Him with our hearts and actions? That is, finding out what He wants us to do amongst our friends and family through reading the Bible, be His best friend by talking to Him and asking Him for guidance and help in times of trouble, listening to our leaders and our parents.

4. What does someone need to do to be 'washed' of their sins?

Jesus gives us a brand new start whenever we say sorry to Him for the things we've done wrong (our sins). We also need to ask God each day to help us to do the right things.

## ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the Activity Sheets in this time.

## THE BIG ACTIVITY

**Purpose:** We are all responsible for the death of Jesus.

Who killed Jesus? There is a mystery going on, and today we are playing detective. Ask the children who is responsible for the death of Jesus. There are several suspects on the loose and we have to track down, with the help of eyewitness reports, those responsible. Using the Suspect Record sheet, write with the children the names of your suspects in the spaces provided.

There seems to be a lot of people involved in the death of Jesus. But there is one more to go and I think we might just crack the case with this suspect.

Final Suspect: 1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 5:8 (All sinners)

**Explanation:** It seems there isn't just one suspect responsible but that ALL of the suspects are responsible... Jesus died for ALL sinners. That's you and me. He died for all those who put Him on the cross.

## THE BIG WORD

"And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love is." Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

**Pizza Puzzle** -The children will write out the verse on a large round piece of card and draw in some pizza toppings. Then take some scissors and 'slice' the pizza into 12 slices. The group then need to work together to put all the pizza slices in the right position to read the verse.

## GAME

*Who am I?*

Write enough names on pieces of paper for every child in your group and tape them onto their backs. You can follow a theme like biblical characters, actors, cartoon characters or whatever you like. Then they all walk around asking yes or no questions of other children in the group in order to find out whose name is on their back. They cannot ask more than two questions in a row to the same person - they must talk to different people.

## PRAYER

Read Isaiah 53:5 "But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed."

*Thank you God for sending your Son Jesus for all the world. Now we have new life and a hope for the future. Jesus, your death on the cross has given us access to OUR great God. Thank you Lord, Amen*

### **Supplies Needed:**

*Print the suspect record sheet from the CD-ROM.*

**Suspect 1:** Matthew 26:49-50 (Judas)

**Suspect 2:** Mark 14:55-65 (The High Priest)

**Suspect 3:** Mark 14:55-65 (The Sanhedrin)

**Suspect 4:** Matthew 27:20 (Elders)

**Suspect 5:** Matthew 27:22 (The Crowd)

**Suspect 6:** Mark 15:15 (Pilate)

### **Supplies Needed:**

Cardboard, Scissors, coloured pencils.