

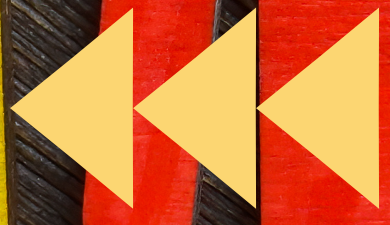


2023-24



# GOD'S RADICAL LOVE

## UNIT 3





## GOD'S RADICAL LOVE

Throughout the Bible, we get to witness different stories of God's radical love for all people. We also get to see many stories where we are called to love our neighbors, but what does this mean in 2024?

This unit, we'll be taking a look at two stories from the Bible and we'll dive into how we are called to love others, who we are called to love, and what this kind of love can look like in today's world. At the end of the unit, we are extremely excited to welcome Dave Scherer and Joe Davis who will be equipping us with tools to love our neighbors better.



## **READ SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSS**

Together as a group, read today's scripture Luke 15: 11-32. Ask for volunteers who might be willing to read or have a leader read aloud. Take a moment to ask the group for their initial reactions. Lead your group in a discussion using the questions below.


1. Have you heard of this story? If so, is there something that stuck out to you as you read it? If you haven't read this story before, what do you think, what sticks out to you about this story?
2. What's the difference between the two sons in this story?
3. Has there ever been a time when you saw someone receive more love from someone than you? How did that make you feel?
4. Has there been a time where you knew you needed more love than usual from someone? What happened? (your parents/caregivers, a friend, grandparents, aunts/uncles)
5. Why do you think it's ok for us to need more love on one day vs. another?
6. How can you show love to someone if they're being like the younger son? How can you show love to someone who is being like the older son?

## **WORKSHEET**

Have each student complete the Bible worksheet provided. When each student is done, ask them to share their answers together as a group. Take time for everyone to share their answers and contribute to the conversation.

## **PEAKS & VALLEYS**

During your small group time, give each student the opportunity to share one peak and one valley about their week. If they don't have a high or low for the week, ask them to share something that stood out to them about their week. End in Prayer!



## READ SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSS

Together as a group, read today's scripture lesson Matthew 22:34-40. Ask for volunteers who might be willing to read or have a leader read aloud. Take a moment to ask the group for their initial reactions. Lead your group in a discussion using the questions below.


1. Who are some of your neighbors? Who do you think the neighbors are that Jesus is talking about?
2. What is the Golden Rule, how do you think it connects with tonight's Bible story?
3. What stuck out to you about the story that Eric shared tonight? How did loving your neighbor show up, or not show up in that story?
4. What is the Platinum Rule? How is it different than the Golden Rule?
5. What might it take for us to treat others the way that THEY want to be treated?
6. How can you treat others the way they want to be treated this week? What do you need to do in order to make that happen?

## WORKSHEET

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## PEAKS & VALLEYS

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# VILLAGE NIGHT 2-7-24

## 5TH & 6TH

### Art

The 5th and 6th grade small groups will meet in the upper great room to create an art piece based around God's radical love for this world.

## 7TH & 8TH

### Art

The 7th and 8th grade small groups will meet in the lower great room to create an art piece based around God's radical love for this world.

## 5TH GRADE

### Getting to Know Our Neighbors

A portion of the 5th grade students will meet over in the McKenna Atrium (through the double doors) to participate in a fun and educational program with our wonderful McKenna neighbors. Students will work side by side with seniors to understand their life station and how they see the world. We will rotate the groups throughout the year during village nights.



## ALL-SERVE NIGHT 1-24-24



Our third all-serve night will be off-site and coordinated by your small group leaders and caregivers. Small groups will participate in volunteer service opportunities throughout the metro area. These service opportunities can be planned on alternative dates to January 24th as long as you do not plan your all-serve on a regular Living Water night.

## FAMILY NIGHT 1-31-24



We are excited to host Dave Scherer and Joe Davis. Through music, poetry and art, they work to create conversations with people that bring healing and education around racial justice.

How are we called to love others? What does this look like for us in our daily lives, in an ever changing world. We'll take a look at some of these topics and more as Dave Scherer and Joe Davis lead us in conversation about loving our neighbor through music and art. Living Water parents/caregivers and students will attend family night together to experience what safe and healthy conversations like this can look like today.