



## Explore

### Look up and read your memory verse, 1 John 4:9, in your Bible.

Before phones were invented, people wrote letters to each other to keep in touch. The Bible could be called a letter written by God. Even though He used people to write the words, He gave them the words to write. The Bible tells us things about God we could never know without it.

### Look up and read 1 John 4:19 in your Bible. Circle the correct statement.

1. God loved us first.
2. We loved God first.

The Bible is God's "letter" to us, He tells us who He is and that He loves us.

### Look up and read Psalm 86:15 in your Bible. What does this verse tell you about God?

### Look up and read 1 John 4:10 in your Bible. How did God show (manifest) His love for us?

God's letter, the Bible, also tells us how we should live, because God knows what is best for us, He wants us to experience it.

### Look up and read 2 Peter 1:5-8 in your Bible, and fill in the blanks.

We are instructed to have faith, \_\_\_\_\_, knowledge,  
self-control (temperance), \_\_\_\_\_, godliness,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and love.

If you grow in those qualities, God will do great things through you. The Bible is given to us so we can know and follow Him.

God loves you so much that He made sure that you had the Bible to read and learn about Him. So what should you do with the Bible?

God wants you to read His letter and learn from it.

Sometimes having a plan helps you to do something that you want to do. Use the plan below to read the Bible more often.

### What time of day will work the best for you to read the Bible?

It also helps to have someone who can ask you if you have been reading what you planned each week. This is called accountability.

### Whom can you ask to do that for you?

It's not about having a perfect plan, but about creating a habit of reading His Word. The Bible is God's letter to you — make sure you are reading it so that you know what He says!

## Discussion Questions

These questions are just a few that your small group will talk about. Think about your responses to the following questions.

1. How would you explain why God wrote the Bible?
2. What is your plan to spend time reading your Bible this week?



## Explore

### Look up and read Mark 12:28 in your Bible.

God loved you so much that He wanted to give you something ... the Bible. The pages and cover of your Bible may get worn the more you read it, but the words He gave you are perfect. They will never change or wear out. The Bible teaches us to love God.

**What is the question that Jesus was asked?**

A commandment is a rule or law that God wants us to follow. So what is the most important commandment?

### Look up and read your memory verse, Mark 12:30, in your Bible.

What are the four things you are told to love God with?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

The Bible commands you to love God with ALL that you are. Every part of what you feel, what you know, and what you think should love God. It is the most important choice that you can make.

Imagine for a minute what it would be like if you loved God with everything that you are. What would be different about you?

What would stay the same?

Loving someone takes work. Loving God should be something that we think about and put effort into.

### Look up and read Philippians 1:9 in your Bible.

Paul prays that the believers in Philippi would abound (grow) more

and more in

and

Love for God begins with knowing what is in the Bible and learning to understand the truth of Scripture.

You can't know God unless you know what the Bible says about Him. When you learn truth from God's Word about His love and His instructions to us, you will want to love God more with your life!

#### DEFINITIONS

**COMMANDMENT** — rule or law

### Discussion Questions

These questions are just a few that your small group will talk about. Think about your responses to the following questions.

1. What would your life look like if you loved God with everything that you are?
2. What is one thing that you can do this week to learn more about God and love Him more?