



## God Loves Me January 11, 2026

---

*1 John 3:1*

---

### Main Point

God's love is abundant, personal, and identity-shaping. God doesn't just extend love, He calls us His children.

### Part 1: Master Teacher (10 Minutes)

#### Introduction

**If someone asked, "What does God really think about you?" how would you respond?**

John answers this boldly: God doesn't merely tolerate us. He delights in us as His children.

#### Biblical Teaching

##### 1. God's Love Is Abundant (v.1a)

- John urges us: "See!" — pay attention, look closely.
- "Great love" means extravagant, abundant, overflowing.
- God is not stingy with His love; He pours it out generously.

##### 2. God's Love Makes Us His Children (v.1a)

- God's love gives us a new identity: sons and daughters.
- Being God's child is not earned; it is given through Christ.
- Identity in Christ shapes everything about how we live.

##### 3. God's Children Will Not Always Be Understood (v.1b)

- The world did not understand Jesus; it will not understand His people.
- Our confidence cannot come from culture's approval, but from the Father's love.
- Being misunderstood does not diminish our identity.

#### Takeaway

- God doesn't just show love. He defines us by His love.
- Before we can "Love People" this year, we must first rest in the truth:
  - **"I am deeply loved by God."**

## Part 2: Group Discussion (25 minutes)

### Facilitator Guidance

- Aim for reflection, not performance.
- Keep the conversation grounded in 1 John 3:1.
- Encourage honesty—identity is a vulnerable topic.
- Use follow-ups like: “Can you say more about that?” or “How has this shaped your week?”

### Discussion Questions

#### 1. Receiving God’s Abundant Love

- What is challenging about believing that God loves you abundantly?
- How is God’s love different from the approval we seek from others?
- Where do you struggle to rest in God’s love?

#### 2. Living as God’s Children

- What does it mean in your daily life to live as God’s son or daughter?
- How has misunderstanding your identity affected your walk with God?
- How does this truth help you approach 2026 with confidence?

#### 3. Letting God’s Love Define You

- What false identities (performance, failure, comparison) do you need to release?
- How would your relationships change if you lived fully loved?
- What truths from this passage speak directly to your current season?

#### 4. Sharing God’s Love with Others

- Why is understanding God’s love essential before trying to love people?
- Who is someone who needs to experience God’s love through you this week?
- How might living confidently in God’s love change the way you treat others?

## Next Steps & Call to Action (5 minutes)

### Facilitator Closing Thought:

God’s love doesn’t begin with what you accomplish, it begins with who He declares you to be. This week, choose to live not for love but from love. Let your identity as God’s child shape every interaction.

### Action Step:

Each group member chooses one daily reminder for the week:

- Write “I am God’s beloved child” where you’ll see it.
- Memorize 1 John 3:1.
- Begin each day thanking God for His love.

### Prayer Focus:

- Thank God for calling us His children.
- Pray we would fully believe and receive His love.

- Ask God to ground our 2026 “Love People” year in His love for us.