





Memory Verse for the 4yo: John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

Week 1: What is I AM 3RD?

I AM 3RD is based on a simple belief that Jesus Christ is first, others are second, and I am third.

We strongly believe that Jesus Christ is the most important person in our lives. (Matthew 25:40)

Do our best in everything: We want to work at everything with all our hearts, as if we are working for the Lord. (Colossians 3:23-24) Studying Scripture: We believe all Scripture is God-breathed (from God) and is useful for teaching, correcting, and training in goodness, so that through studying Scripture we may be equipped (ready) for every good work.

It is our prayer that we would gain a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Christ through our weekly devotions and times of prayer, in order to help us learn more about Jesus Christ and His importance in our lives. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

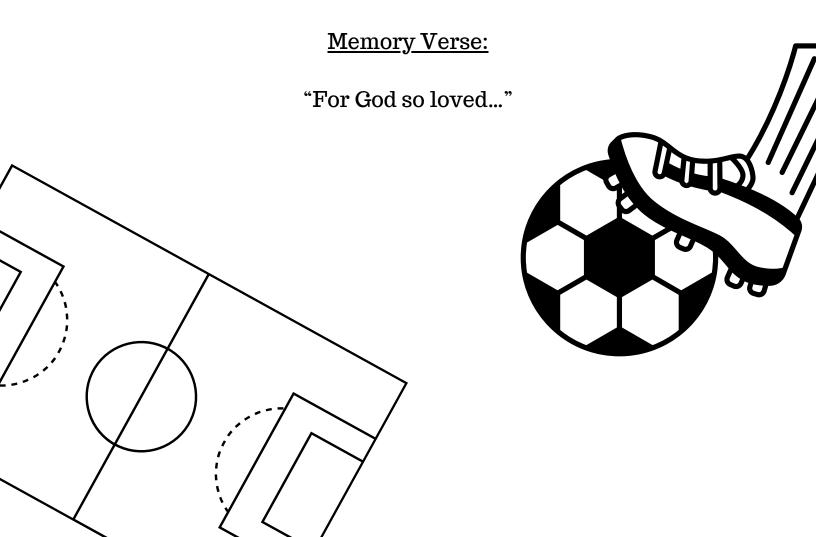


Week 2: "For God so loved..."

This soccer season we will spend our devotional time memorizing John 3:16–17. This is a very important passage to remember because it summarizes the whole story of Jesus in just two sentences. The first part we will memorize together is "For God so loved..." Did you know God loves you very much? The Bible even tells us that "God is love" (1 John 4:8). When God thinks of you, He feels so much love for you. It doesn't matter if you win or lose. Just remember God loves you no matter what!

Questions:

What does love look like? Who is someone you love and/or someone who loves you?





Week 3: "...the world..."

Last week we talked about how God loves you very much. But God's love is so much bigger than just for you and me. He loves the whole world! He loves all of the people, plants, animals, and everything else He created! His love is so big that there is not one thing, or one person He made that He forgets to care about. When we hurt other people's feelings that hurts God's feelings because He loves other people just as much as He loves us. That's one reason why it is always important to be kind to everyone.

Questions:

How does knowing that God loves everyone change the way we treat people?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world..."



Week 4: "...that he gave his one and only Son..."

Last week we talked about how God loves the whole world. How does God show the world His love? By sending his Son, Jesus, to save the whole world from the power of sin. Jesus died on the cross, rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven. This was a big sacrifice, but God was willing to do it because of how much He loves us.

Questions:

How does God's sacrifice make you feel? How can we respond to this love that God has for us?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..."



Week 5: "...that whoever believes in him..."

One of our reflection questions last week was, "How can we respond to this love God has for us?" This week's section of John 3:16 gives us an answer. All God asks in return for the death and resurrection of Jesus is that we believe in Him. But what does it mean to believe? Is it just to think really hard about how God is real? Not exactly. When you believe in something it changes the way you behave and the way you understand the whole world. For example, if I believe my sister loves me, I will treat her differently than if I believe she doesn't. If I am not sure if she loves me, I may not be willing to share my things with her, but if I know she loves me, I know she will treat me well. While belief is all God requires, our belief in Him should change the way we live and treat others.

Questions:

What is something that you believe? How does it change the way you act?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him..."



Week 6: "...shall not perish but have eternal life."

Last week we talked about how we respond to God's love for us by believing in Him. As we believe and are transformed by our belief in Jesus, we are given another wonderful gift. We get to live forever with Him! If you have ever heard the story of Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-3) you know that they once had eternal life, but they lost it when they sinned. Jesus' death and resurrection restored the connection that humans lost with God when Adam and Eve sinned. We no longer have to suffer the consequences of their sin.

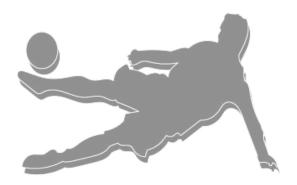
Questions:

What does sin look like to you?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Wow, you have memorized a whole verse of the Bible! That's awesome! Congratulations! All of us at I AM 3RD are very proud of you.



Week 7: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world..."

Sometimes people are afraid that Jesus is not a very kind or loving person. This verse reminds us that God did not send Jesus to judge everyone as good or bad. If we remember back to a few weeks ago, God sent Jesus because He loves the world and wants to save it! It is always important to remember that Jesus loves you and God loves the world, even when life feels difficult or scary. We can also remind others of this when they are scared or hurting.

Questions:

Have you ever felt afraid about something and remembered how God loves you?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world..."

Week 8: "...but to save the world through him."

God does not want to condemn the world. He sent Jesus to save the world! I don't know about you, but when I hear the words, "save the world" the first thing that comes to mind is superheroes. I think of big, strong characters wearing colorful costumes and capes who are so powerful they can save the world! What's so interesting about the God we serve is that He didn't save the world through a big, strong superhero. Jesus first arrived to save the earth as a little baby in a manger. Not really the most powerful thing, right? But that's what's so cool! God saves us through someone we would all see as weak. That's part of why, later in the Bible, Paul says that there is power in weakness.

Questions:

How does remembering Jesus coming into the world as a baby change the way we think of Him saving us? How can we be examples of this kind of power that God shows when compared to superpowers?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him."

Congratulations! You just memorized two whole verses! That is so cool!





Week 9: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him."

Have you ever heard the word "Gospel"? Sometimes when we use a word a bunch of times, we don't even really think about what it means anymore. Gospel means "good news," and in the Bible it means the good news about Jesus. Now that you have done the hard work of memorizing these two verses, you know the Gospel! That God sent Jesus to die and rise again because He loves the world, wants to save it, and wants to spend eternal life with us forever. The Bible is a big book with many stories and so much wisdom. These two verses summarize the whole story. We are so proud of you for memorizing them!

Questions:

How could you share the Gospel with someone you know?

Memory Verse:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him."









Week 10:

Take a few minutes to reflect on the season

Questions

What are some memories you made? What will you take away from the devotional time this season?





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