

K/1ST

I AM 3RD



Basketball



CENTENARY
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Memory Verse for the K/1st: Romans 5:8

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this that while we were sinners Christ died for us.”

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)

Doing 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)

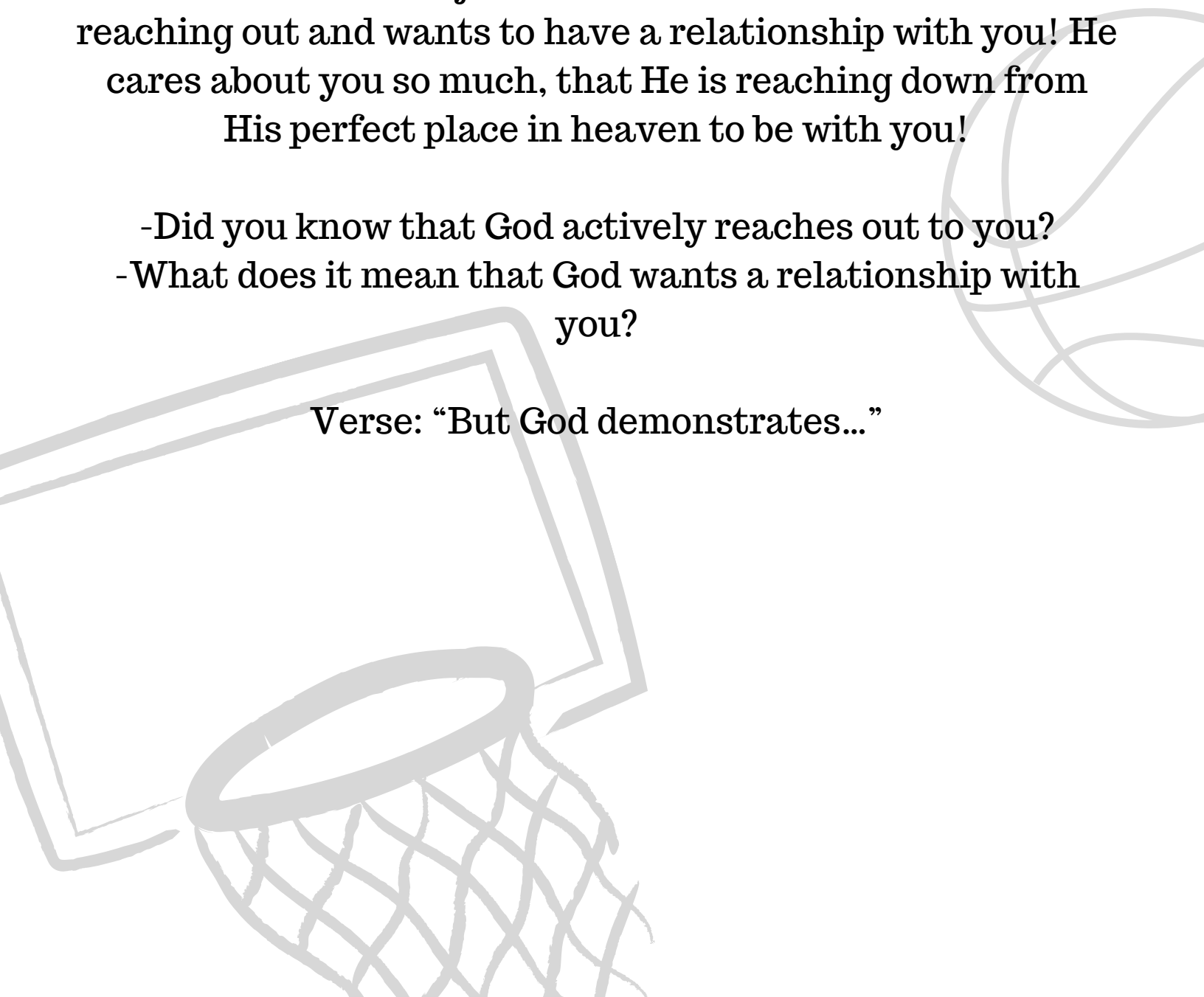


Week 2: But God demonstrates

This basketball season, we will be spending our devotional time memorizing Romans 5:8. This is a very important passage for us to remember because it tells us the story of how God reaches out to us and loves us, even when we don't deserve it. The first part we will memorize together is "But God demonstrates..." Did you know that God reaches out to us? He doesn't just sit in heaven and watch us. He is reaching out and wants to have a relationship with you! He cares about you so much, that He is reaching down from His perfect place in heaven to be with you!

- Did you know that God actively reaches out to you?
- What does it mean that God wants a relationship with you?

Verse: "But God demonstrates..."



Week 3: His own love



Last week, we talked about how God cares about us. Today we are looking at the phrase “...His own love...” God loves us so much. Many of us have heard this a lot, but God really really loves you. Last week we talked about how God cares. He shows us that He cares through the way He loves us. God sent Jesus to earth because He loves us so much. God has forgiven us over and over again because of how much He loves us. God has shown us over and over again just how much He loves us. And He loves you!

-Have you seen God’s love in your life?

-Has God put people in your life who show you His love?

Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love...”



Week 4: for us in this

Last week, we talked about how God loves us. Today we are looking at the phrase “...for us in this...” Now, this might seem like a boring section, but it is actually so cool! We know that God cares, and that God loves, but that’s not all! When God shows us this love, He always takes the first step. God does not need to love us. God can do anything He wants, but He chooses to use His time to show us just how much He cares.

-Do you believe that God loves you?

-Have you ever seen God reach out to you? Have you seen wonderful things happen that didn't make sense? Have you known people who show you just how much God cares?

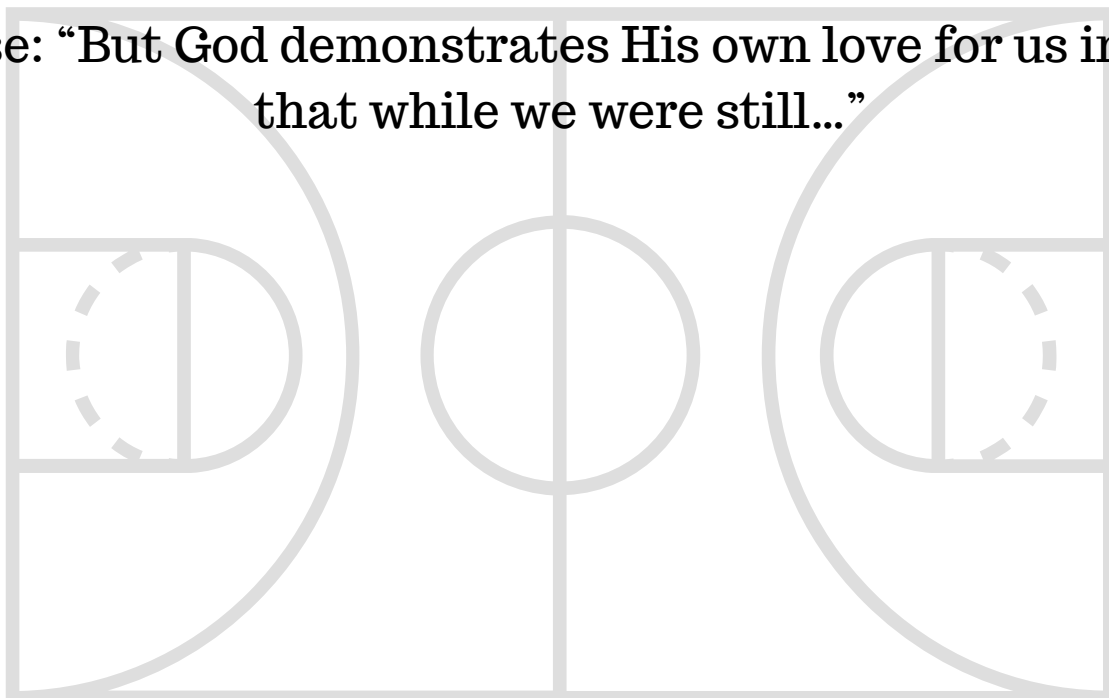
Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this...”

Week 5: while we were still

Last week, we talked about how God actively takes steps to have a relationship with us. Today we are looking at the phrase “...while we were still...” Now this passage shows us so much about God’s character. We did not have to ask God to love us. We did not have to ask God to send Jesus. We still don't have to ask God to care for us. God just does. Even when we are sinning, God loves us. Even when we are making all the wrong choices, God loves us. Even when we try to run away from God, He loves us. We don't have to do anything for God to love us, He just does.

- Has someone ever done something really nice for you without you even asking?
- God reaches out before we even ask. What do you think that tells us about what (or who) God cares about?

Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this that while we were still...”





Week 6: sinners

Last week, we talked about how God reaches out to us before we even ask Him to. Today we are looking at the word “...sinners...” You see, we are not perfect. We mess up! That is part of being human. We aren't perfect, but God is. God is perfect, and He still wants to spend time with us. Even though we are imperfect sinners, God reaches out before we even ask Him to. He reaches out and has given us an opportunity to have a relationship with Him.

- What does it mean to be a sinner?
- Are we all sinners? Or just some people?

Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love for us in that while we were still sinners...”

Week 7: Christ died

Last week, we talked about how God reaches out to us, even though we are sinners. Today we are looking at the phrase “...Christ died...” Christ is Jesus. Jesus died for us. Even though He could have stayed in heaven, He didn't.

Jesus came to earth and died for us. This is how God showed His love. This is how God reached out to us before we even asked. When Jesus died on the cross, He took away all our sins. Jesus made a way for us to have a relationship with God.

- Did you know that Jesus died on the cross?
- What does it mean that Jesus died?

Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this that while we were sinners Christ died...”



Week 8: for us

Last week, we talked about how Jesus died so that we could have a relationship with Him. Today we will finish the passage with the phrase “...for us.” That is the point of all of this. God doesn't just love us because it is fun. Jesus didn't come to earth just because He could. God chooses to love us. Jesus chose to save us. He wants a relationship with you, and He has done so much for you! Always remember, God loves you.

-Do you have a relationship with God?

-Do you believe that Jesus chose to come to earth to die for you?

-Do you believe that God loves you and cares for you?

Verse: “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this that while we were sinners Christ died for us.”



Week 9: Season Reflection and Review

Take a few minutes to reflect on this season.

Questions:

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





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