

Heathfield Baptist Church
Family Devotions
Title: Love is the Reason

Prayer: Dear Lord please bless this time that we spend as a family, reading Your Word and discussing it to learn more about You and what You would have us do in obedience to what we learn from Your Word. Amen

Reading: John 3:16 "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."

1 John 4: 7-10 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Explanation: We are the reason that God sent His Son, Jesus to die on the cross of Calvary in our place. No other verse in the Bible so succinctly summarizes God's relationship with humanity and the way of salvation. Some consider [John 3:16](#) as the "theme verse" for the entire Bible. [John 3:16](#) tells us of the love God has for us and the extent of that love—so great that He sacrificed His only Son on our behalf. [John 3:16](#) teaches us that anyone who believes in Jesus Christ, God's Son, will be saved. [John 3:16](#) gives us the glorious hope of eternal life in heaven through the love of God and death of Jesus Christ.

Discussion: Why did God let Jesus die such a cruel death? What would have happened if Jesus did not die for our sins? Is there any other way to gain eternal life other than accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour? What will happen if we reject Jesus? What are you doing as a family to ensure that we love one another and that we have eternal life? How do we encourage others to love one another and about a relationship with God? How can we show that we have love for one another and others? What can we do to demonstrate that love? What other Bible verses speak of God's love and our response to it.

Activity: Write down some of the things you discussed on a page and colour it in (children can do this/ family can do it together) and place it on the fridge/ kitchen wall or a prominent place to serve as a reminder of the things you are doing / may want to do the will impact the lives of others, leaving a legacy worth celebrating and following. Write down some of the things you can do individually and as a family to demonstrate God's love.

Application: Walk in the truth, which is God's Word, obey it, live it and see the results of you serving God wholeheartedly. Know that God loves you has sent Jesus to take away your sins, so that you might have everlasting life with God. He commands that you love others

Prayer: Father God may Your Word dwell in us richly so that the impact of lives may bless our family for many generations. Thank you Jesus that You died for our sins. Thank you that we can love because you enable us to love You and others. Thank you that we can look forward to living with You in heaven one day. Amen.