

God Is _____
When You Feel Like God Can't Love You

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!
... 1 John 3:1 NIV

On the other side of the lake the crowds welcomed Jesus, because they had been waiting for him. Then a man named Jairus, a leader of the local synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come home with him. His only daughter, who was about twelve years old, was dying. As Jesus went with him, he was surrounded by the crowds. A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding, and she could find no cure. Coming up behind Jesus, she touched the fringe of his robe. Immediately, the bleeding stopped. "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. Everyone denied it, and Peter said, "Master, this whole crowd is pressing up against you." But Jesus said, "Someone deliberately touched me, for I felt healing power go out from me." When the woman realized that she could not stay hidden, she began to tremble and fell to her knees in front of him. The whole crowd heard her explain why she had touched him and that she had been immediately healed. "Daughter," he said to her, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace."
Luke 8:40-48 NLT

The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. Psalm 103:13 NLT

... "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Exodus 34:6 NIV

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 NLT

"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV

But he took her by the hand and said, "My child, get up!" Luke 8:54 NIV

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share something great that happened to you this week.

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Have you ever struggled to believe that God is a loving Father? Why do you think that is? How did you shift that view? In what ways are you still working to see God as loving?
- Read **1 John 3:1**. What does it look like to live as a child of God? What's different in your life because of this truth?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- We experience God as He walks with us, stops for us, and talks to us. Share a way you've experienced Him recently.
- When we receive God's love, we're able to extend His love to others. Talk about ways you've accepted God's love and the ways you've seen His love impact those around you. How could you show His love to others more regularly?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for loving us. Please reveal any lies we believe about You that keep us from fully receiving Your love. Help us to love others better this week. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Our earthly relationships impact how we view God. Identify one lie about God that's influenced by your earthly relationships. Spend time reflecting on the truth about God, and share it with your small group.
- Start the *God Is _____* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/GodIs
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.