



EPHESIANS | FAMILY | WEEK 4 OF 4

Better

The Family series focuses on how we're brought into relationship with God through the persons of the Trinity—from God's desire to adopt us into his family to Jesus' rescue to the work of the Holy Spirit.

BIG IDEA

As we share God's love with others, we get to know God better.

KEY VERSES

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.
John 4:11–12 (NLT)

1 | Hangout

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- Highlight that God's love for us can spill out onto others. As we love one another, we get to see and experience God's love for us in new ways!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Ask: Have you ever heard of positive gossip? If you have, what is it? If you haven't, what do you think it could be?
- Clarify that positive gossip is sharing a good rumour about someone else (e.g., Did you hear that Jeff serves every single week with a group of energetic seven-year-olds? He's amazing!).
- Discuss:
 - If you were going to spread positive gossip, who would it be about? What would you say?
 - If someone spread positive gossip about you, what might they say? How would you feel about it?



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2 | Hear

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Look up and read Ephesians 1:15–23.
- Point out that Paul shares some positive gossip in this passage. He's heard great things about the Christians in Ephesus!
- Discuss:
 - What has Paul heard about these Christ-followers?
 - What is Paul's prayer for them?
 - Have you ever prayed for other Christ-followers? If so, who? What was your prayer for them?
- Read verses 19–20 again.
- Discuss:
 - What do you think these verses mean?
 - How do they affect your life?
 - How do they make you feel?

3 | Huddle

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Remind the students that as we share God's love with others, we grow in our knowledge of his love and get to know God better.
- Discuss:
 - What's one way you could share God's love with others this week?
 - How do you think your life could change if you follow through with this idea?
 - How do you think someone else's life could change if you did it? What could they learn about God's love from you?
- Challenge everyone to follow through with at least one idea to put love into action.
- Encourage the students to write an idea on their hand or make a note in their phone. Offer to send reminder messages to them.
- Pray for each member of your small group.
- If time permits, look up and read 1 John 4:7–21.
- Discuss: How would you sum up these verses in one sentence?
- Point out that loving others can be difficult. Changing our point of view may help. Suggest that the students think of someone who has been tough for them to love and ask God for help seeing that person as he sees them.