



HEART WEEK

Month 4: LOVE OTHERS

“Father, help us reach **EVERY LAST ONE** on our campus with Your HOPE!”

WELCOME

LEADER TIP: Arriving early to pray over the room, playing worship live or on a bluetooth speaker, and greeting attendees as they enter, creates an environment that welcomes God's presence and people well.

Welcome: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Welcome to First Priority! We are so happy that you are here today! This month, we will be talking about how our purpose is to love others. This week is HEART week, where we will learn that God's heart for us is to love others!

Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Feel free to have a student leader pray in their own words or the prayer below.

SAY: Let's pray. *“Heavenly Father, thank You for Your amazing love! We want everyone on our campus to know and feel just how much You love them. Help us to learn how to love others like You do. In Jesus' Name, amen.”*

WORSHIP (OPTIONAL)

Worship Transition Talk: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Psalm 103:8 says, *“The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.”* Our God is gracious, full of compassion, and love! Let's praise Him together, thanking Him for His love!

Worship: _____ (Leader)

Worship song(s) length: _____

LEADER TIP: Worship can be led live or by a lyric video. Test all technology WELL BEFORE club begins. Because students come from diverse worship backgrounds, provide lyrics (in slides, handouts, or a QR code) so everyone can participate. Song suggestions do not imply FP's endorsement of every artist or song they perform.

Song Suggestion:

TOPIC:
Loving Others
God's Love

SONG:
Build My Life
Run to the Father

ARTIST:
Pat Barrett
Cody Carnes

Message Transition Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Worship is a powerful time to invite God's presence. To carefully transition into the message, have a student leader pray in their own words or use the prayer below.

SAY: *“God, we thank You that You are gracious, compassionate, and full of love! Help us to share and show Your love with those around us. We want to love others like You, and fulfill the purpose that You have for us. In Jesus' Name, amen.”*

MESSAGE

Scripture: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Today's scripture is from Matthew 22:39, which says, *“The second most important commandment is like this one. And it is, ‘Love others as much as you love yourself.’”*

Message: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: One or more leaders may present the message. If you'd like to write this message in your own words, use the CLUB PLAN TEMPLATE in the FP AL app and the main points below as a guide.

SAY: 1. Jesus tells us the most important commandments.
We learned last month that in Matthew 22, Jesus was teaching a group of people. Within that group were many religious leaders who tried to challenge Jesus with questions. In this conversation, they asked Jesus to tell them the most important commandment. Matthew 22:37-39 says, *“Jesus answered: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. This is the first and most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like this one. And it is, Love others as much as you love yourself.’”*

2. Loving others shows that we are followers of Jesus.
How can we show others that we follow Jesus? In John 13:35, Jesus says, *“Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples (followers).”* This means that the way that we love other people can show the world that we follow Jesus. Can we all take a moment to ask ourselves this question: Does my love for others show people that I follow Jesus? Does the way I treat others show them Who Jesus is?

We can't say that we love God if we don't love others. First John 4:20-21 says, *“If someone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? And He has given us this command: ‘Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.’”* So how can we love others?

Our love for others can show them that we are followers of Jesus. As we go throughout our day, this can be simple. It can be something like sending someone a text after school and letting them know that you are praying for them. It may be asking someone in your class how they are doing, and taking time to actually listen to them.

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MESSAGE (continued)

It may be helping your teacher, your coach, or your parents with something during class, at practice, or at home without being asked. It may be asking your pastor or your principal how you can pray for them. Let's look for opportunities today to show God's heart to others.

3. Jesus shows us that loving others is possible. Have you ever had someone hurt your feelings? Maybe someone has said hurtful things about you to your face or even behind your back. Maybe someone made fun of you. Or maybe you have been the person who said hurtful things to someone or about them. Maybe you've been the one who has torn others down with your words. Do these actions show that you're a follower of Jesus? Of course not. But there is good news! Jesus can help us. He wants to help us if we've been hurt by someone, or if we've been the one that hurt others. Jesus can give us the strength to forgive those who've hurt us, or to apologize to those we have hurt. In the Bible, He lives by example.

Did you know that Jesus was betrayed by one of His own disciples? In Matthew 26:15, Judas sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. Did you know that another one of Jesus's disciples denied that he knew Jesus? In John chapter 18, Peter denies knowing Jesus three times! This would be like one of your best friends telling other people that they aren't friends with you and they don't even know who you are. Do you think Jesus stopped loving Judas and Peter? No. He still died for them. Jesus gives us this amazing example that even though it may be difficult, loving others is possible. The Holy Spirit can fill us with God's love, so that we can pour it out on others. Romans 5:5 says, *"And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love."*

4. God's heart for us is to love others on our campus.

What would our campus look like if each of us committed to love others like Jesus? If each one of us chooses to love just one person today, we can make a difference. There may be people in our school that you don't think you can love. But what if we laid aside our differences, and chose to love others like Jesus commands us? What if us choosing to love someone like Jesus leads them to receiving the gospel? Let's ask Jesus to help us love others like He loves us. Ask Him to show you one person today who you can share His love with.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT (OPTIONAL)

LEADER TIP: If you have time available, discuss these questions in a small group or large group setting. For small groups, select a leader for each group.

Group Questions: _____ (Leader)

IMPORTANT: If discussion or a student's personal question(s) drift toward topics too lengthy or difficult for the time allotted, please encourage them to ask the adult leaders in the room after the meeting or refer them to their parents or pastors after school.

(Example: "That's a great question. Let's ask _____ after the club today or _____ after school.")

GROUP LEADER(S) SAY:

1. Why do you think Jesus commands us to love others?
2. What are some ways that you personally love others?
3. Who is one person you can show the love of Jesus to today?

SOCIAL MEDIA (OPTIONAL)

IMPORTANT: If your club doesn't have a social media account, check with your Faculty Sponsor for approval. **LEADER TIP:** If your club has a social media account, you can create content to share this week's verse, club meeting recaps, upcoming meetings, or events. Encourage your classmates to follow the account. Check out @firstpriorityal on Instagram for inspiration.

CLOSING

Announcements: _____ (Leader)

SAY: "We can't wait to see you next week! Pray about who the Lord wants you to invite! Let's close our time together in prayer."

Closing Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Dismiss attendees to class based upon Faculty Sponsor's direction.
2. Clean your club meeting space, removing any trash.
3. Reset all items in your club meeting space to their original positions.