



OPPORTUNITY 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! Thank you so much for joining us today! This month we are learning about how our purpose is to love others! This week is OPPORTUNITY week, where we will talk about taking opportunities to love others and overcoming any obstacles in the way of us sharing God's love. Let's open in prayer!

Prayer: _____ (Leader)

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

SAY: “Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us the greatest example of love through Your Son, Jesus. Help us to receive Your love, so that we can love others like You do. We want everyone in our school to receive Your love! In Jesus' Name, amen.”

WORSHIP (OPTIONAL)

Worship Transition Talk: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Colossians 3:2 says, “Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.” When we worship, we choose to set our minds completely on God and His presence. Let's take this moment to remove distractions and focus on the Lord as we worship Him!

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:

<u>TOPIC:</u>	<u>SONG:</u>	<u>ARTIST:</u>
Love Like Jesus	More Like Jesus	Passion
God's Love	What A God	SEU Worship

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 invite You into this room right now to speak to every heart. As we hear this message, we ask that Your Word would encourage us and challenge us. Help us to love others like You love us! In Jesus' Name, amen.”

MESSAGE

Scripture: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Today's verse is John 13:34 which says, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.”

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.

Today's Message Author: This message was written by Kennedy, a First Priority student leader from St. Clair County, Alabama.

SAY: 1. Jesus gives a difficult challenge. Think about the people who make you feel seen, welcomed, and cared for. Maybe it's a parent, a grandparent, a coach, a teacher, or a friend. It feels good to know someone genuinely cares about you. But we also know what it's like to be left out, ignored, judged, or hurt.

Right before Jesus went to the cross, He gave His disciples one final command. He said, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” (John 13:34) Jesus didn't say, “Love the people who are easy to love.” He didn't say, “Love people only if they agree with you, are kind to you, or deserve it.” He simply said, “love each other the same way I have loved you.” That sounds simple, but if we're honest, it's one of the hardest things we'll ever be called to do.

2. Compassion matters more than comfort. Jesus showed us exactly what real love looks like through the parable of the Good Samaritan. In Luke 10:30-37, Jesus tells the story of a man who was attacked by robbers, beaten, and left on the side of the road. A priest walked by and kept going. Then a Levite came by and did the same thing. Both saw the man, but neither stopped. Then Jesus said, “But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.” (Luke 10:33) The Samaritan didn't stop because it was convenient. He didn't stop because the man could pay him back. In fact, Samaritans and Jews normally didn't even get along. He stopped because compassion mattered more than comfort.

He bandaged the man's wounds, took him to an inn, paid for his care, and made sure he was okay. After telling the story, Jesus asked, “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law answered, “The one who had mercy on him.” (Luke 10:36-37a) Then Jesus said something incredibly simple, but incredibly challenging: “Go and do likewise.” (Luke 10:37b)

(continue on back)



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MESSAGE (continued)

3. We love others because we've experienced God's love.

That's still His command for us today. Who is the person God is asking you to "go and do likewise" for? Who needs someone to notice them? Who needs someone to choose kindness when everyone else walks by them? The Good Samaritan points us to Jesus. We were the ones broken by sin and unable to save ourselves, but Jesus didn't walk past us. He came to us. He loved us first. That's why the Bible says, "*We love because He first loved us.*" (1 John 4:19) We don't love people so God will love us more. We love because we've already experienced His love.

4. Simple acts of loving others can change someone's life.

This is where our theme "Opportunity" comes in. Every single day, God places opportunities in front of us to love people like Jesus. It might look like inviting someone to sit with you at lunch, encouraging a teammate who's having a hard day, forgiving someone who hurt you, praying with a friend, standing up for someone who's being left out, or inviting someone to First Priority. Those moments may not seem like a big deal, but God can use simple acts of love to completely change someone's life. Sometimes the greatest way to share Jesus is by showing His love through your actions.

Jesus even tells us why this matters. Just one verse later, in John 13:35, He says, "*Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples.*" Notice He doesn't say people will know we're Christians because we wear a cross necklace, have a Bible app, or go to church on Wednesdays. He says they'll know us by our love. The way we treat people is one of the loudest testimonies we have. Every conversation, every hallway, every classroom, every practice, and every lunch period is an opportunity to reflect Jesus.

So this week, don't just ask God to give you an opportunity. Ask Him to help you recognize the opportunities He's already placed in front of you. Ask Him to open your eyes to the student who's sitting alone, the friend who's hurting, or the person who simply needs someone to notice them. Loving others isn't always comfortable, but it is always worth it because that's exactly how Jesus loved us. When we choose love, we're living out the purpose God has called us to.

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 is loving others challenging at times?
2. Have you ever chosen compassion over comfort? What did that look like?
3. Are there opportunities God has already placed in front of you that you haven't realized until today's message? What's your next step?

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.

LOCAL CHURCH INVITE

Local Church Invite: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Take this opportunity to share with the club about your church/youth group, what day/time you meet, and any upcoming events that may be taking place.

SAY: It is important for followers of Jesus to have a community where they can be encouraged and grow in their faith! If you don't have a church you attend regularly, our Student Leadership Team would love to help you connect with a church.

Example: *My name is (your name) and I attend (your church). We meet on (day/time).*

CLOSING

Announcements: _____ (Leader)

SAY: "We can't wait to see you next week! Let us know if we can help you connect to a local church! Let's close in prayer."

Closing Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Close in prayer asking God to help us recognize the opportunities we have to love others.

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.