

# THIS IS US

## GAME IDEAS:

The Movie or Show Pitch Icebreaker.

Split people into groups and have each group come up with a movie they want to make. Everyone should have a short pitch prepared within 5 minutes. (This film is *The Avengers* meets *My Little Pony*.) Let everyone make their pitch, and then have everyone vote on which idea deserves “funding.”

## ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS:

1. What was the single best thing that happened this past year? (even though it was 2020)
2. What is your most used emoji?
3. What’s the weirdest food you’ve ever eaten?
4. You can have an unlimited supply of one thing for the rest of your life, what is it?

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 22:34-40

**36** “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

**37** Jesus replied, ““You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’[a] **38** This is the first and greatest commandment. **39** A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[b] **40** The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

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**MAIN POINT: GOD'S LOVE IS MEANT TO BE RECEIVED AND RELEASED**

## **DEVOTIONAL:**

### Intro

Hey guys ! We're so excited our new series tonight called This is us! In this series we will be talking about the heartbeat of what it means to follow Jesus, and as a student ministry, who we are going to be ! This is us ! One thing in know is everyone is known for something. At the end of the day , what you do stems off of who you are or WHOSE YOU ARE. And when we look at the bible, we can see that people are a big deal to God. He loves us and has a plan for every single one of us. But He also calls us to love others in the same way He has loved us. So here is the tension...

### Tension

How can I actually love others?

Jesus said something about this in the Bible...

### Scripture

#### Matthew 22:34-40

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### MAIN POINT

**GOD'S LOVE IS MEANT TO BE RECEIVED AND RELEASED**

### Illustration (Story)

### Application

#### **1. RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE**

##### Romans 5:8

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

### Observation

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See , Jesus mad a way for us to receive His love by going to the cross for us. This isn't something we deserved, but it's something we absolutely needed.

## Application

Jesus is the source of love. There are many different ways to his source of love. But there are different ways to the source. It's kind of like water.

## Illustration

We all need water, but there are a ton of different sourced water. Whether it's a good old fashion well, or a spring, river , filtered water , rain water, filtered water or reverse osmosis water. There are different sourced water, but at the end of it's all still water.

Wand when it comes to the love of Jesus, there are many different sources. Here are a couple of sources to receive the love of Jesus.

1. Reading and meditating on God's word is a source
  - That's why we make such a big deal about SOAP'ing
2. Worship is a source
  - Giving Jesus the worth he deserves but also speaking and believing his healing over our lives
3. Prayer is a source

All these things are a sources of receiving and know God's love. Here's the truth... without the love of Jesus we can't truly love others. His Love is the source.

We need to receive God's love. But we also need to...

## 2. RELEASE GOD'S LOVE

**39** A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Loving others is sourced from loving Jesus . James says that people will know our love for God by our love for others.

Ap

- You have the opportunity to be a generation of generosity. To love people right where they are at . So how can you be generous ?

### **Learn how to tell your story and tell it**

This is your testimony. Your Testimony is what God has done in your life. And it's kind of two folded. 1. Your testimony of coming to Jesus for the first time. The bible teaches that you

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moved from death to life when you come to Jesus. 2. A daily testimony. This is what God has done in your life in the last week. The last month. The last year. Your daily testimony constantly builds your faith. What has God done in the last week in your life? Last Month? Last year?

## **Learn how to invite others into what God has done in your life**

To service , to camp , to conference , to students nights , to small group. Wherever it is. Invite others into what God has done in your life.

## **Look for opportunities**

Look for opportunities to release God's love to people.

## **Make Space**

**Often times we have to make space.** It's hard to love when there is hate in our heart .It's hard to love when there is unforgiveness in our heart. It's hard to love when there is . How can we make space ? Maybe by having a hard conversation Maybe saying good by to some things or even people in our life (give other examples )

## **Challenge**

## **Go to the source**

## **GROUP QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you think the definition of love is? ( be open, this is an opportunity to add language to what the love of God actually is)
2. Do you think that's the same definition of love Jesus is talking about?
3. Why do you think it's important to know that the source of love is Jesus?
4. We talked about being generous with love by sharing testimony. Does anyone want to share their testimony? ( leaders share if no one is willing)
5. How can we go to the source this week? ( highlight worship, intercession, and Scripture)

## **PRAYER:**

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