

LESSON 14:

PERSONAL GOD OF LOVE



AIM:

To communicate 3 facts – 1/ God exists 2/ God is interested in us 3/ That we can live in the fullness of His love.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Actual Reality CD
- Computer
- LCD Projector (depending on size of the group)
- Bibles
- Popcorn + Pan + Cooker or microwave
- Bibles
- Flip Chart or OHP or Wall paper
- Pens
- Playdough
- Testimonies from church members of their experiences of God's love for them

Is God Real?

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'Today's Highlights']



[click on 'Today's Highlights']

[Instantly the TV will televise two answers to two questions

1. Does God Exist?
2. What is God Like?]

DISCUSS:

Brainstorm or into small groups

1. **"Do you think God exists?"**

[Allow the group to feedback and explore their answers. Answers could be written up on a flip chart or OHP]

ACTIVITY:

[Hand out Playdough to each individual and ask them to create an image of what they think God is like.]

2. **"What do you think God is like?"**

[Allow each individual to feed back on their creation and reason. Again answers can be either written up on a flip chart or OHP.]

Do we Limit God?

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'God in a Box']



[Click on the wooden box in the centre of the room]

DISCUSS:

[Having read out the statement that appears when you've clicked on the box.]

“Do you think that as people / Christians we limit God...”

1. **In the way that we know / think about Him?**
2. **In the way we experience Him?**
3. **In the way we allow Him to move in our lives?**

ACTIVITY:

[Bring in a pan full of popcorn seeds]

INFORMATION:

Explain that God can be like these seeds and we can be like the pan. The seeds are ineffective and the pan is near enough empty. But when we allow Gods power and love to be let free in our hearts through the working of the Holy Spirit **ACTS 2:3 (God stirred them up and then look at what happened – from 12 guy’s came about the Church)**. This happens...

[Put the pan on a cooker ring and allow to cook and to bubble over.]

[As they watch the popcorn bubble over read out **Ephesians 3:16-19**]

INFORMATION:

*Christians Believe that God exists
Christians believe that God is far bigger than any box we might put Him into.
So is He actually interested in you and me?*

Is God interested in you?

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to ‘Rebecca St. James’]



[Click on the Record Player in the right hand corner of the room]

INFORMATION:

Rebecca gives us a story as to how she knows that God is more than just interested in her but has helped her and her family out, not just with ‘Gody’ stuff.

[Read out some testimonies from people in your church who have had direct answers / help from God.

You could also video the answers from the individuals and show it to the group, this could help the group know people in your church and ask them questions later.]

QUESTION:

“Has God ever answered any of your prayers?”

[Take feedback and comment and affirm]

Applying God to our lives

ACTIVITY:

Put up around the room either large sheets or the reverse side of wall paper – to be used as a large brainstorm answers sheet.

Split the sheet up into the different sections – Real Thing – Joy – Use It – Everyday – Love of Jesus Christ

Use pens that will not mark through to the underneath. Brainstorm onto the sheet feedback or questions raised or statements made that stick out from the following sections.

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'Real Thing']



[Click on the multi coloured poster 'The World Wide Message Tribe']

Real Thing

Helpful Thoughts from the clip:

- [Christianity isn't what's portrayed in the outside world.]
- [Church / Bible / Prayer is different and real / life changing.]
- **DO YOU AGREE?**

Joy

Helpful Thoughts from the clip:

- [It's not a wishy washy floating joy.]
- [It's a life changing / peace giving / question answering / satisfaction giving joy.]
- [It's a joy that helps you through the hard times.]
- **Have any of you experienced this joy?**

Use It

Helpful Thoughts from the clip:

- [It's about giving this Joy away.]
- **How do we give it away?**

Everyday

Helpful Thoughts from the clip:

- [God wants to communicate with us on a daily basis.]
- [Unless we communicate to Him and allow Him to communicate to us how will we hear all that He has for us each day?]
- **SO HOW DO WE HEAR?**

Love of Jesus Christ

Helpful Thoughts from the clip:

- [God's love can make us Secure + Whole]
- **SO WHAT GETS IN THE WAY OF RECEIVING HIS LOVE?**

EXTRA:

[Click on the following and discuss.]

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'Is God a divine downer?']



[Click left of the central box]

[After discussion click onto the couch for 'Is God a crutch for the week?']

RESPONSE:

[Pray for each other that they may know the fullness of God's love in their lives. This could be done in small groups / individually / collectively.]