

# SERMON OUTLINE John 3:16

The Love of God Is Shown through Christmas

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## **THE LOVE OF GOD IS SHOWN THROUGH CHRISTMAS**

*For*

*God*

*So Loved the World*

*So*

*He Gave*

*His Only Son*

*His Only*

*That Whoever Believes in Him*

*Believes in Him*

*Should Never Perish*

*But Have Eternal Life*

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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My main aim is to help you better understand and be drawn into God's love in Jesus Christ. That is, I want to help all of us experience the genuine love of God in greater ways this Advent season as a result of the awesome truths and promises revealed in this single verse.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What helps you celebrate Christmas the most? What passages, books, music, traditions?
3. What tempts you away from celebrating Christmas the most?
4. If you were to name the top three things you associate with Christmas, what would they be? Where is God's love on your list?
5. What do you think is the most familiar passage in the Bible? Do you remember the first time you heard John 3:16?
6. Which of the eleven clauses from John 3:16 do you imagine will best help you celebrate Christmas? Why?
7. The world around us is busy trying to redefine words. Which word in this verse has been redefined the most?
8. Why is it so significant that that love of God and all its effects are available to *whoever* believes in Him?
9. Which are you more excited about, avoiding eternal destruction (never perish) or eternal life? Is it close? Why?
10. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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11. Make a plan to celebrate Christmas for God's glory. Consider one thing you might add or take away to help.
12. Share the Christmas story with someone who does not believe.
13. Make a playlist with theologically rich and musically excellent Christmas music.
14. Decorate your home with things that point to specific attributes of God or elements of the gospel. Consider making some.
15. Commit to a simple Bible reading plan through Advent. Work slowly and prayerfully through it like we did John 3:16.
16. Participate as fully as possible in the Christmas events of Grace Church.
17. Find a way to help someone else experience the love of God in Jesus this Christmas.
18. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon? How will you celebrate Christmas differently this year?

## PRAYER POINTS

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19. Adoration. Praise God for being perfectly loving. Praise God for being gracious. Praise God for being generous. Praise God for being eternal. Praise God for being life. Praise God for being just. Praise God for being truth.
20. Confession. Confess any worldliness, selfishness, or indifference that creeps in around Christmas.
21. Thanksgiving. Thank God for His love. Thank God for sending His only Son to die in your place. Thank God for rescuing you from destruction and bringing you eternal life. Thank God for surrounding you with people who want to help you celebrate Christmas to the glory of God.
22. Supplication. Ask God to help the people in your life (including yourself) be sufficiently amazed by His love and grace to trust in and worship Him. Ask God to comfort the hurting especially during Advent. Ask God to make our church increasingly healthy in all we think, believe, and do.