

# Now What? - WEEK 3

LESSON OUTLINE // We Over Me

## BIG IDEA

The love of Jesus brings us together and shows the world who He is

## BIBLE

John 13:35; Colossians 3:14; John 17:21-23

## ABOUT THIS WEEK

Jesus' plan wasn't just to save individuals but to form a family—a community marked by radical love. In a world full of division, drama, and cliques, Christian unity stands out. This week we'll explore what it means to love one another deeply, fight for peace, and be the kind of community where people feel seen, safe, and supported.

*WHAT? What are we talking about today?*

### HOOK – Feeling Left Out

- Start off by sharing a time where you felt left out of something that you really wanted to be a part of.
- Have you ever felt like you were left out of a group? Like you were on the outside looking in?
  - Maybe it was at school, on a team, or even in church.
  - An inside joke that you pretended to get.
  - What made you feel that way?
- The truth is that relationships can be messy, especially when we have questions about whether or not we belong.
- But this is the beauty of the Gospel.
  - See, the Gospel is like the gift that keeps on giving.
  - Of course we receive the greatest gift of all, a right relationship with God, but there are other perks that come along with it and that includes feeling and being included.
  - When you say yes to following Jesus, not only do you get Him – which would be more than enough, but you're also invited into a family where you belong no matter what!
- But as a part of that family, we given one rule: to love one another.

### READ JOHN 13:35 (*Telos Bible pg. 1050*)

- Did you catch that? Because this is a big deal! Jesus teaches that one of the ways we can prove to the world that He is who He says He is, and we are who we claim to be is by the way we love our brothers and sisters in the family of God.
- **The love of Jesus brings us together and shows the world who He is.**

*SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?*

- When we follow Jesus, we're not just invited into a belief—we're invited into a family.
- Following Jesus means becoming part of something bigger than ourselves: the Church.
  - And just like any family, this comes with challenges—but also incredible purpose.
- **Unity is powerful, and Jesus prayed for it.**
  - John 17:21–23, Jesus prays that His followers “may be one,” just as He and the Father are one. Why? “*So that the world may believe*” that He was sent by God. That means our unity is one of the loudest ways we share Jesus with the world.
- **Love is the glue that holds it all together.**

- Colossians 3:14 says, “Above all these, put on love, which binds everything together in perfect unity.” Love is more than a feeling—it’s an action. It holds together relationships, communities, and our witness to the world.
- **When we gossip, exclude, or hold grudges, we’re doing real damage.**
  - These actions don’t just break friendships—they break trust, create division, and distort how people see Jesus through us.
- **But when we choose “we over me,” we’re living out the Gospel.**
  - When we love radically, forgive quickly, include intentionally, and fight for unity, we’re putting Jesus on display. We’re showing the world that He’s real—and that His love changes everything.
- **Unity doesn’t mean we’re all the same—it means we’re all have the same thing that binds us together.** Different personalities, backgrounds, and opinions are a strength when we’re united by Jesus and the truth of the Gospel. Unity is a choice, and it starts with us being willing to put our differences aside to look at what joins us together.
  - *“I have more in common with an Iranian Christian than with an unbelieving American” -Matt Chandler.*

*NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?*

- **How can we live this out this week?**
  1. **Ask yourself:** Is there someone I’ve avoided, gossiped about, or excluded? What would it look like for that relationship to be made right?
  2. **Encourage someone:** Is there someone in your life who could use some encouragement? Try to find a Bible verse that speaks truth about who they are and share it with them. Remind them of who God made them to be.
  3. **Be a bridge builder:** When you see someone else who isn’t connected, try to invite them in.
  4. **Pray for your small group**
  5. **Choose “we” over “me”.** Ask Jesus to help you see and love people the way He loves and sees you.

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**PRAYER:**

- Close with a prayer for unity and ask the Lord to strengthen our love for one another.
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