

# Love Letters

## DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIPS IN GOD'S WORD

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### *Social Media Component Instructions*

The social media component has been created to help you communicate with your class daily and to interact with them and encourage them to interact with each other in discussing topics from the week's lesson.

Each day focuses on a small passage from the Scripture used in that week's lesson to reinforce what they learned in class and a few options are given for suggested social media posts. The day's Scripture passage is included as well as questions and things to think about.

For the days where the Scripture passage is too long to be able to post in Twitter, we recommend you link to the passage on a website like Biblia.com, which will also allow you to choose an alternate translation if you prefer something other than the NASB.

When using the questions, we recommend using the hashtag for the Love Letters lesson number and post day that we have included (ex. #LLA5\_1) so that your class can interact on these questions with learners from other churches, as well as using a specific hashtag for your group, so that you and they can specifically interact with others from your church. (ex. #TrinityYA)

We hope that these will be very useful to you in interacting with your class on a platform where they are comfortable and that it will encourage them to engage with the lesson text during the week.

*Though you can post to each social media platform each day if you'd like, we'd recommend using the social media and texting service inside the Bible Study Manager or Hootsuite™ to schedule your posts ahead of time and make it possible for you to have just one website to open to see your students responses from multiple social media platforms.*

# Love Letters : DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIPS IN GOD'S WORD

## LESSON 1 :: CREATED AND KNOWN BY GOD

Biblical Passage: Psalm 139:1-16 / Memory Verse: Psalm 139:16

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 139:1-4 O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O Lord, You know it all. (NASB)
- Does it comfort you to know that God knows everything? Why or why not? #LLA1\_1
- If God already knows the answers, why would He want you to think about His plan for you? # LLA1\_1

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 139:5-6 You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it. (NASB)
- God is surrounding you and His hand is resting on your shoulder. Is His presence in your life more than you can understand?
- You can hide parts of yourself from others, but you cannot hide anything of yourself from God. # LLA1\_2

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 139:7-8 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. (NASB)
- You are one of over seven billion people on the earth, and God knows you perfectly.
- Because God is Spirit, He is not bound by any of the constraints we face and is able to be present in all places at all times.

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 139:9-10 If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me. (NASB)
- Whatever we experience as the best and worst of our days, God is right there with us.
- How has God comforted you when you were feeling down? # LLA1\_4

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 139:11-12 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night," Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You. (NASB)
- God gave you life because He loved you. And God loved you before He gave you life.
- How have you felt God's presence this week? # LLA1\_5

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 139:13-14 For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. (NASB)
- To weave something together means to combine several parts or details into one whole new creation.
- Have you thanked God today for making you who you are?

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 139:15-16 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written. The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. (NASB)
- How can you be sure of God's presence in every part of your life? # LLA1\_7
- What does it mean that God has known you since before you were born? # LLA1\_7

# Love Letters : DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIPS IN GOD'S WORD

## LESSON 2 :: PROTECTED BY GOD

Biblical Passage: Psalm 91:1-16 / Memory Verse: Psalm 91:15

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 91:1-2 He who dwells in the shelter on the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!" (NASB)
- Google defines "refuge" as a condition of being safe or sheltered from pursuit, danger, or trouble.
- The word "fortress" creates imagery of strongholds or military complexes. Do you associate these images with God? Why or why not? #LLA2\_1
- What does it mean to trust someone? #LLA2\_1

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 91:3-4 For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. (NASB)
- Just as an animal can't free itself from a trap, neither can we free ourselves from the death grip of sin.
- What in the world is a "bulwark"?
- Why all the bird analogies? Are birds a good metaphor to describe God? Why? #LLA2\_2

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 91:5-6 You will not be afraid of the terror by night, or of the arrow that flies by day of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or of the destruction that lays waste at noon. (NASB)
- What are you afraid of? #LLA2\_3
- Common phobias: heights, close spaces, the dark, snakes, and spiders. Any of these yours?
- What calms you down when you are fearful? #LLA2\_3

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 91:7-8 A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand but it shall not approach you. You will only look on with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. (NASB)
- How would you describe the state of our world? Does it bring you hope or do you find it discouraging? #
- In the middle of difficult times, do you feel protected? #LLA2\_4
- "Safety comes in our nearness to God, not in our distance from our enemies." —Dillon Burroughs, *Hunger No More*

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 91:9-10 For you have made the Lord, my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place. No evil will befall you, Nor will any plague come near your tent. (NASB)
- Is there evil in the world today? How can you tell? #LLA2\_5
- Where do you go when you want to feel safe? #LLA2\_5
- We all have the option to choose God's protection. Will you?

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 91:11-13 For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and cobra, the young lion and the serpent you will trample down. (NASB)
- Lion vs. Cobra. Which would win in a fight to the death? #LLA2\_6
- Lucky for us, when challenges come, we do not face them alone.
- When do you feel like you need the most help and protection from God? #LLA2\_6

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 91:14-16 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. "With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation."(NASB)
- When you encounter trouble in your life, do you find it difficult to trust God? #LLA2\_7
- "Love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength" (Luke 10:27)
- God provides love and comfort in our time of need.

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## LESSON 3 :: SUSTAINED BY GOD

Biblical Passage: Psalm 23:1-6 / Memory Verse: Psalm 23:1

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. (NASB)
- We are sheep.
- Sheep are generally considered dumb animals. Why would we want to be sheep? #LLA3\_1
- God provides for us. Thankful to be a sheep.

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. (NASB)
- Is there a specific location that comes to mind when you hear green pastures and quiet waters? #LLA3\_2
- Green Pastures = Food and Rest; Water = Nourishment
- How are you provided for on a daily basis? #LLA3\_2

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 23:3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (NASB)
- Where do you go when you need to rest and be re-energized? #LLA3\_3
- Everyone should take time to relax, take a deep breath, and remember that God is in control.
- How do you decide what is right and wrong for you? #LLA3\_3

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. (NASB)
- The valley of the shadow of death is not a place I'd like to take a stroll.
- Life is not easy or perfect.
- What weapons does God use to defend us? #LLA3\_4

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows. (NASB)
- What is your favorite meal to eat in celebration? #LLA3\_5
- Anointed = Set apart
- We all have the option to choose God's protection. Will you?

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 23:6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (NASB)
- How would you define lovingkindness? #LLA3\_6
- How can we show lovingkindness to others?
- God's love will be with you forever.

## DAY 7:

- John 10:27-29 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.
- What is your most prized possession that you would do anything to protect? #LLA3\_7
- How can we hear God? #LLA3\_7
- You are known. You are loved. You are protected.

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## LESSON 4 :: COMFORTED BY GOD

**Biblical Passage:** Psalm 103:1-14 / **Memory Verse:** Psalm 103:13

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 103:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. (NASB)
- What does it mean to be "blessed"? #LLA4\_1
- Blessed = Made Holy
- Thankful for friends, family, and students.

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 103:2-5 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits; who pardons all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases; who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; who satisfies your years with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle. (NASB)
- Have you ever felt like your life is in a pit? #LLA4\_2
- What makes you feel better when you feel tired and worn out? #LLA4\_2
- How would you describe "lovingkindness"? #LLA4\_2

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 103:6-7 The Lord performs righteous deeds and judgments for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel. (NASB)
- "Oppress": To make (someone) feel sad or worried for a long period of time. (Merriam-Webster)
- God takes care of everyone and everything.
- Do you feel like you know the path God has for your life? #LLA4\_3

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 103:8-9 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. (NASB)
- Where do you have to practice the most patience? #LLA4\_4
- How do you handle anger towards others? #LLA4\_4
- Thankful for a God who is patient with me when I'm at my worst.

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 103:10-11 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. (NASB)
- What's the farthest distance you ever traveled? #LLA4\_5
- Take your farthest distance you've traveled and then multiply that by a gazillion, and that's how much God loves us.
- What do you think heaven is like? #LLA4\_5

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 103:12-13 As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him. (NASB)
- Who are the people in your life that irritate you but you love them anyways? #LLA4\_6
- What does it mean to have compassion for someone? #LLA4\_6
- There is nothing we can do that would make God stop loving us.

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 103:14 For He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are but dust. (NASB)
- How many people know everything about you? #LLA4\_7
- It can be hard to be transparent with others, so how does it feel to know there is nothing you can hide from God? #LLA4-7
- God knows the good and ugly parts of our lives, yet He still loves us unconditionally.

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## LESSON 5 :: FORGIVEN BY GOD

**Biblical Passage:** Psalm 32:1-11 / **Memory Verse:** Psalm 32:5

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 32:1-2 How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! How blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit! (NASB)
- What does it mean to forgive someone? #LLA5\_1
- How does it feel to receive forgiveness from a friend? #LLA5\_1
- God has forgiven our sins—what a relief to know we are accepted and loved!

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 23:3-4 When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. (NASB)
- It can be exhausting holding onto a secret.
- Even if we can't trust others with our secrets, we can trust God.
- Whom do you trust? #LLA5\_2

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 32:5 I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. (NASB)
- When you played hide and seek as a kid, what was your favorite hiding place? #LLA5\_3
- "Confess": To talk about or admit something that makes you embarrassed or ashamed, etc. (Merriam-Webster)
- Carrying around guilt can be cumbersome and all-consuming. Be thankful for forgiveness.

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 32:6-7 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him. You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. (NASB)
- What is your favorite song? Does it speak of deliverance? #LLA5\_4
- Do you think prayer is important? #LLA5\_4
- What helps you stay out of trouble at school, home, and work? #LLA5\_4

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 32:8-9 I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you. Do not be as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding, whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check, Otherwise they will not come near to you. (NASB)
- Which teacher has taught you the most? Why? #LLA5\_5
- What is the difference between a horse and a mule? #LLA5\_5
- Don't be stubborn. No matter what the circumstance, God is always there to comfort and protect you.

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 32:10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but he who trusts in the Lord, lovingkindness shall surround him. (NASB)
- How would you define the word "wicked"? #LLA5\_6
- How can you build trust in a relationship? #LLA5\_6
- Those who trust God will be surrounded in love.

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 32:11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones; and shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart. (NASB)
- Have you ever been so overjoyed that you literally shouted? When? #LLA5\_7
- What makes you happy? #LLA5\_7
- What does it mean to be upright in heart? #LLA5\_7

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## LESSON 6 :: TAUGHT BY GOD

**Biblical Passage:** Psalm 119:33-40 / **Memory Verse:** Psalm 119:33

### DAY 1:

- Psalm 119:33-34 Teach me, O Lord, the way of Your statutes, and I shall observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law and keep it with all my heart. (NASB)
- Statutes = rules; law
- Do you find it easy to abide by rules? #LLA6\_1
- Thanks to the sacrifice of Christ, we don't have to abide by strict laws of the Old Testament.

### DAY 2:

- Psalm 119:35 Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it. (NASB)
- What is your favorite place to walk? #LLA6\_2
- Do you take joy in following rules or guidelines? Why or why not?
- Believe it or not—there can be joy in doing the right thing!

### DAY 3:

- Psalm 119:36 Incline my heart to Your testimonies and not to dishonest gain. (NASB)
- It's better to live a life of truth & hard work than to be dishonest gaining false accolades and success.
- Mark McGuire, Alex Rodriguez, Rodger Clemens & Lance Armstrong—what do these people all have in common? #LLA6\_3
- God change our hearts to honor Him.

### DAY 4:

- Psalm 119:37 Turn away my eyes from looking at vanity, and revive me in Your ways. (NASB)
- Unfortunately we live in a world where material things are very important.
- Can money make you happy? #LLA6\_4
- What are the important things of life? (Hint: It's not money) #LLA6\_4

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## DAY 5:

- Psalm 119:38 Establish Your word to Your servant, as that which produces reverence for You. (NASB)
- Do you consider the Bible relevant in your life? #LLA6\_5
- God's Word is timeless and applicable to your life.
- By spending time in the Word we gain a better understanding of God.

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 119:39 Turn away my reproach which I dread, for Your ordinances are good. (NASB)
- What the most disgusting thing you've ever seen? #LLA6\_6
- What situations give you a feeling of dread? #LLA6\_6
- Following the Lord allows us to live a life free from guilt.

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 119:40 Behold, I long for Your precepts; revive me through Your righteousness (NASB)
- What is the hungriest you've ever been, the point where you wanted food more than anything else? #LLA6\_7
- If you could choose to replace one possession with a new version, what would it be? #LLA6\_7
- Spiritual newness begins with God's word.