



UNSTOPPABLE

**SMALL GROUP
LEADERS GUIDE**

Top Tips for Open Discussion

Allow time - Silence is ok

It takes time to listen to a question, process it, consider an answer and then pluck up the courage to share it with a group. Allow space and time once you have asked a question, and don't be tempted to fill up silence.

Rephrase questions if needed

If there's no response, try rephrasing the question. A fresh angle can spark engagement.

Ask open questions

Invite deeper thinking by avoiding yes/no answer questions. For example, instead of "Do you believe in God?", you might try "What do you think about the idea of a spiritual side to life?".

Don't answer the questions

The discussion is not a space for us to share our own thoughts, but rather a place for us to facilitate a conversation between the young people about *their* thoughts. If a question arises, try to refrain from answering, instead throw it back to the group - you could say "*That's a really interesting question! What does everybody else think?*".

Be encouraging

Show each young person that you are grateful for their contributions, you have listened to them, and you value their thoughts - even if you don't necessarily agree with them.

1. BE REAL: Be yourself, allows others come as they are, and present the real gospel.

2. BE RELATIONAL: Prioritise connection and friendship. We want each venue to be a safe and friendly place, where young people can feel valued and experience trust, honesty and openness.

3. BE RELIANT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT: Lean on our greatest friend and helper for wisdom and guidance. Be praying for your young people and be attentive to what God is doing.



Explore

Friday PM - What is unstoppable love?

God's love is different from the kind of love we often see in the world. Sometimes people stop loving when things get hard, when someone messes up, or when they don't get anything back. But God's love is unstoppable. He doesn't give up on people when they feel lost, forgotten, invisible, or far away.

Discuss

- What are some things people say they "love"?
- Why do you think people want to feel loved and important?
- What are some ways people's love can change or disappear?
- What do you think makes God's love different?

Parable: Jesus told a story about a woman who lost a coin and searched carefully until she found it. The coin mattered to her, so she didn't stop looking. That's what God is like. He doesn't give up on us, because we matter to Him.

Discuss

- Why do you think the woman searched so carefully for one coin?
- Have you ever lost something important? How did it feel when it was found?
- How does it feel that God never gives up on you?

Read it: 1 John 4:16 & Luke 15:8-10

Saturday AM - Why are we unstoppable loved?

Sometimes people feel like they need to earn love - by being good at things, funny, or clever. But God's love is different. God loves us because he made us, and cares about us. We are his children.

Discuss

- What do people think they need to do to be loved or accepted?
- Can you tell me about a time you felt like you had to prove yourself?
- What do you think it means to be God's child?

Parable: Jesus told a story about a shepherd who left 99 sheep to find one that was lost. The sheep didn't do anything to earn being found, the shepherd just cared about it. That's what God is like. He loves us not because of what we do, but because we matter to him.

Discuss

- Why do you think the shepherd went looking for one sheep?
- If you had 100 of something and lost one, would you go and look for it? Why?
- What does the parable show us about how God feels about people?

Read it: 1 John 3:1 & Luke 15:3-6

Explore

Saturday PM - What does unstoppable love do?

Sometimes people make choices that leave them hurt, lost, ashamed, or far from God. But God's love doesn't give up when people get things wrong. Unstoppable love rescues, forgives, and welcomes people home.

Discuss

- Have you ever needed to be rescued?
- What are some ways people can end up feeling lost or far from others?
- What do people usually expect when they've done something wrong?

Parable: Jesus told a story about a son who left home and wasted everything he had. When he decided to go back, he expected his dad to be angry. But instead, his father ran to him, hugged him, and celebrated. That's what God's unstoppable love is like, full of forgiveness and welcoming us with open arms.

Discuss

- Why do you think the son decided to leave home?
- How do you think he felt when everything went wrong?
- What do you think he expected when he came home?
- Why do you think the father ran to him instead?
- What does this parable teach us about God?
- Have you ever needed forgiveness or a second chance?

Read it: 1 John 4:9-10 & Luke 15:11-24

Sunday AM - How does unstoppable love change us?

God's love isn't just something we receive, it changes us from the inside and shapes how we treat other people. The world often teaches us to put ourselves first, but God teaches us to love others, notice people who need help, and show compassion.

Discuss

- What does it look like to put others first?
- When have you seen someone show kindness?
- Why do you think kindness can sometimes be hard?

Parable: Jesus told a story about a man who was hurt and people walked past without helping. A Samaritan stopped, helped him, and cared for him, even though it cost him something. This is what real love looks like.

Discuss

- Who do you think acted like a neighbour in the story? Why?
- Why do you think the other people walked past?
- What are some ways people can be ignored or left out today?
- Why can loving people sometimes be difficult?
- How can God help us love people better?
- What is one practical way you could show kindness or compassion at home this week?

Read it: 1 John 4:11-12 & Luke 10:30-37

Rooted

Friday PM – Real Love

Truth: God’s unstoppable love broke into the world through Jesus

1 John 3:16 NCV – This is how we know what REAL LOVE is: Jesus gave his life for us. So that we should give our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Resources: scratch art and tools

- **Encourage** your group to sit in a circle. **Read** out the truth and bible verse.
- **Show** one of the scratch art shapes before it’s been used. Chat about how the world was in darkness but then God’s REAL LOVE broke through in JESUS. Begin to scratch and reveal the colours and light.
- **Question:** What is God’s REAL LOVE like?
- **Question:** How did Jesus show us REAL LOVE?
- **Question:** Have you received this REAL LOVE for yourself?
- **Create:** Choose a scratch art shape to decorate. Chat about how nothing can stop God’s REAL LOVE. He breaks through into our world and brings his colour, light, power and so much more...
- **Pray** for the children to know this unstoppable REAL LOVE

Saturday AM – Solid Rock

Truth: Unstoppable Love Lavished on Us - God’s love calls us His children and gives us a secure identity

1 John 3:1 NCV The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God. And we really are His children. The reason the people in the world do not know us is that they have not know Him.

Resources: rocks, pens, stickers, ‘What’s Next’ booklets for anyone who has said YES to Jesus

- **Encourage** your group to sit in a circle. **Read** out the truth and bible verses.
- **Show** the rocks. Tell me about the rocks, what are they like? How do they feel?
- A rock is super strong. It won’t break easily. As we grow in confidence that we are God’s deeply loved children, we build our lives on an unshakeable identity - like a solid rock.
- **Create:** Decorate a rock with pens and stickers to help receive this truth.
- **Question:** What does it mean to you to be God’s child?
- **Question:** How can you grow in believing this truth each day?
- **Extra questions:** I wonder if you have chosen to be forever friends with Jesus and received his love and forgiveness.
- **Pray** for anyone who needs prayer
- **Feedback** to a Core Leader any testimonies of salvation.

Saturday PM – Worship

**Truth: God loved me first so I can love God in return.
I can worship, be thankful and surrender to him.**

1 John 4:19 NCV We love because God first loved us

Resources: card, pens, templates, play dough

- **Encourage** your group to sit in a circle. **Read** out the truth and bible verses.
- **Question:** What does God's love for you look like or feel like? How has it changed you?
- **Question:** What would you like to do in response to this amazing love?

Choices of worship response to God:

- **Worship:** THANK YOU or PRAISE templates to fill in and decorate
- **Surrender:** Is there something you want to let go of or surrender to God - make it out of play dough and hold it in your hand. Pray and imagine letting it go to Jesus and receive His peace, love, joy in return.
- **Free choice:** paper and pens available for the children to respond in their own ways to God.

Sunday AM – Overflow

Truth: Unstoppable Love Overflowing to the World - God's love flows through us to others and makes us part of something unstoppable.

1 John 4:11-12 NCV Dear friends, if God loved us that much we should also love each other. No one has ever seen God, but if we love each other, God lives in us, and His love is made perfect in us.

Resources: craft boxes, stickers and pens, sweets and pieces of paper

- **Encourage** your group to get into a circle. **Read** the truth and bible verse.
- **Question:** Tell me about God's overflowing love? What have you experienced?
- **Question:** How can we take God's love with us everywhere we go?
- **Question:** Who would you like to share the love of Jesus with?
- **Create:** Choose a craft box for someone else to share God's love with. Decorate it.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit for an encouraging message for them and write it on the paper. Pop it into the box with a sweet (optional).
- **Pray** for the person to experience the unstoppable love of Jesus.
- **Pray** for each other to be overflowing with God's love when you go back home.

Create

Friday PM

God's Unstoppable Love for the World: 1 John 3:16

Welcome to Spree. This weekend we're exploring something massive, that God's love is unstoppable. And it starts here: God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus. Not even death could stop His plan to rescue us.

- What are you most looking forward to this weekend?
- If you had to describe God in three words to someone who'd never heard of Him, what would you say?
- Why do you think Jesus actually had to come and die, couldn't God have just forgiven us from heaven?
- What does it mean to you that God's love for the world includes you personally?
- Is there anything that makes it hard to believe God could love you that much?
- If God's love really is unstoppable, what difference might that make this week?

Extra Time, Name Story, go round the circle and each person shares the story of their name (who chose it, what it means, do they like it). Surprisingly deep, gets people talking fast.

Saturday AM

Unstoppable Love Lavished on Us, 1 John 3:1

Last night we talked about God's love breaking into the world. This morning it gets personal. The Bible says God has lavished love on us, that we should be called children of God. Not employees. Not strangers. Children.

- One word for how you're feeling this morning?
- Where do you think most young people get their sense of who they are from?
- What does it mean to be called a "child of God", does that feel true, or weird?
- If you really believed you were loved by God no matter what, what would change?
- Is there anything you struggle to believe God could love about you?
- What's one lie you've believed about yourself that you'd like to leave at Spree this weekend?

"I Am" Affirmations, go round the circle; each person says one true thing about the person on their left (something they've noticed already, even if you've only just met). Ties straight into the "child of God / identity" theme.

Saturday PM

Our Unstoppable Love for God, 1 John 4:19

God's love broke in. It's been poured out on us. Now it's our turn. The Bible says "We love because He first loved us." Tonight is about loving Him back, not because we have to, but because of who He is.

- Who's the easiest person in your life to love, and why?
- When you hear the phrase "loving God," what comes to mind?
- What do you think gets in the way of people loving God back?
- What does it mean to "surrender" to God, does that word sit comfortably with you?
- If loving God isn't just about feelings, what does it actually look like day-to-day?
- What's one thing this week you could do that would be a way of loving Him back?

Extra time, play "Would You Rather?" but make it ridiculous. Take turns coming up with the most impossible choices you can think of.

Sunday AM

Unstoppable Love Overflowing to the World: 1 John 4:11–12

We've been loved. We're learning to love Him back. And now? Love that's real never just stays in the room, it overflows. We're going home as part of something unstoppable.

- What's been your favourite moment of Spree?
- Who's someone in your life who's loved you well, what did they actually do?
- Is it easier to love people you like, or people you find hard? Why?
- Where do you think God might be asking you to love someone better, school, home, online?
- What feels scary about going home and living differently?
- If God's love really is unstoppable, what's one thing you want to stop letting stop you?

Extra time: play "Human Knot." Everyone grabs two different hands across the circle and untangles without letting go.

Deeper

Friday PM

God's Unstoppable Love for the World (1 John 3:16)

God's unstoppable love broke into the world through Jesus. Not even death could stop His plan to rescue and restore us.

- Can you think of a time when you saw someone show real, sacrificial love for another person?
- What does Jesus' life and death show us about how much God loves us?
- How does it make you feel that God doesn't give up on you? That His love keeps pursuing you even when you mess up, drift away, or don't feel close to Him?

Pray for the person next to you, that this week they would deeply know that God's love for them never stops and never gives up.

Saturday AM

Unstoppable Love Lavished on Us (1 John 3:1)

God's unstoppable love is poured out on us, calling us His children and giving us a secure identity that nothing can take away.

- What do you think it means that God calls us His children, not just followers or fans?
- What are some things people look to for identity or worth? Why is God's love more secure than those things?
- What does it mean to receive God's love as a gift, instead of trying to earn it?

In your groups, pray that we would know how deeply loved we are by God, quietly holding out your hands as a sign of receiving from Him.

Saturday PM

Our Unstoppable Love for God (1 John 4:19)

Because His love is unstoppable, it awakens our love for Him in worship, gratitude, and surrender. We are invited to respond with hearts that love Him back.

- How have you seen God's love show up in your life before? Maybe through prayer, times of worship or a specific part of the Bible?
- What do you think it means to surrender everything to Jesus? Are there parts of your life that you feel might be tempting to hold back or hide from him?

Could you take a moment to think and pray about what God might be asking you to do in commitment to his plans for your life?

Sunday AM

Unstoppable Love Overflowing to the World (1 John 4:11–12)

God's unstoppable love flows through us to others. When we love one another, His love is made complete in us and we become part of something unstoppable - a movement of God's love that brings light, changes lives and breaks barriers.

- Have you ever seen God's love reach into somewhere unexpected, or changed your perspective on a situation / person?
- Is there a particular place or group of people you'd like to see God's love break through into?
- How do you think we can support and encourage each other when sharing God's love in difficult places?

Take some time to pray for the Holy Spirit to speak to you about someone you could share God's love with.

Space

Friday PM

God's Unstoppable Love for the World 1 John 3:16

God's unstoppable love broke into the world through Jesus, not even death could stop His plan to rescue and restore us. We will look at the meaning of real, unconditional, sacrificial love, exploring sin, forgiveness, and God's amazing grace. We will explore:

- The problem – sin and separation
- The solution – why did Jesus die?
- The result – a relationship with God

DISCUSSION BREAK 1: What does real love look like...?

- What makes you feel loved?
- How do you express your love to others?
- Why is love important to us?

DISCUSSION BREAK 2: Where do you see evil in the world?

- Where do you see evil in your school, your city, your country, the world?
- Why is it bad?

DISCUSSION BREAK 3: How easy is it for you to forgive someone when they hurt you?

- How do you feel when you have been forgiven by somebody?
- Why do you think the bible tells us to forgive people?
- What do you think about the idea of God forgiving you?

Saturday AM

Unstoppable Love Lavished on Us 1 John 3:1

God's unstoppable love is poured out on us, calling us His children and giving us a secure identity that nothing can take away.

DISCUSSION BREAK 1

- What does a good friendship look like?
- Who is your closest friend?
- What is your favourite thing about your friendship with them?

DISCUSSION BREAK 2

- What do you think about having a relationship with God?
- How might a relationship with God differ from relationships we have with other people?

DISCUSSION BREAK 3

- What do you think God feels when he looks at you?

Saturday PM

Our Unstoppable Love for God 1 John 4:19

Because His love is unstoppable, it awakens our love for Him in worship, gratitude, and surrender. We are invited to respond with hearts that love Him back.

DISCUSSION BREAK QUESTIONS ON SCREEN

Sunday AM

Unstoppable Love Overflowing to the World 1 John 4:11–12

God's unstoppable love flows through us to others. When we love one another, His love is made complete in us and we become part of something unstoppable – a movement of God's love that brings light, changes lives and breaks barriers.

DISCUSSION BREAK 1

- What are the moments where you feel closest to God?
- How can your relationship with Him become more than just emotional moments?

DISCUSSION BREAK 2

- What's one place in your everyday life where God might be calling you to represent Him more boldly?

DISCUSSION BREAK 3

- Who is one person in your life that needs to experience the love of Jesus through you?
- What could it look like to move toward them this week instead of staying comfortable?

Encounter

This year, we thought it'd be fun to grade the questions like Nando's does its chicken: Lemon & Herb (mild), Medium, and Extra Hot!

Friday PM

What better place to start than with God's plan to rescue and restore us. Not even death could stop God's love breaking into the world through Jesus!

Lemon & Herb - What's the biggest way you've seen someone show love?

Medium - How is God's love different from the love we see around us?

Extra Hot - Do you personally find it easy or hard to believe that God loves you? Why?

When you had some time to discuss the theme, invite your group to pray for each other: Maybe you could encourage them to accept God's offer of love today?

Saturday AM

God's unstoppable love is poured out on us, calling us His children and giving us a secure identity that nothing can take away.

Lemon & Herb - What do you think it means to be called a child of God?

Medium - How could knowing you're a child of God shape your confidence or sense of who you are?

Extra Hot - What are some of the things that stop us from living within our true identity as God's children?

Spend some time in prayer, listening to God's voice:

Is God challenging you to forgive someone in your life today? How could you do that practically?

Encounter

Saturday PM

Because His love is unstoppable, it awakens our love for Him in worship, gratitude, and surrender. We are invited to respond with hearts that love Him back.

Lemon & Herb - What do you think loving God looks like?

Medium - What helps you feel close to God/ What can get in the way of loving and feeling close to God?

Extra Hot - If someone looked at your life, what would they say you love most? And what might need to change or shift in your life to love God most?

Spend some time in prayer, thanking him for the way he reveals himself in your lives, asking him to help you live lives that show your love for him?

Sunday AM

God's unstoppable love flows through us to others. When we love one another, His love is made complete in us and we become part of something unstoppable – a movement of God's love that brings light, changes lives and breaks barriers

Lemon & Herb - What do you think it means to “love one another”?

Medium - How can the way we treat people show something about God?

Extra Hot - What stops us from loving others the way God asks us to?

Pray and encourage each other to go out into the world as forgiven and free disciples of Jesus.

