



## No Matter What, No Matter Where – Week 1 “Jesus Is For You. And So, We Are Too” - May 16, 2021

### Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation; encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

#### // Bible References

John 3:16, Romans 8:31-39

#### // Message Summary

This week Ben takes us back to the basics, back to the core message of the Gospel. Some may look at this message and think “That’s so cliché,” and thus minimizes its effectiveness and value. Others, if you spent any time in bible studies or religious services, committed this scripture to memory before any other scripture. We are talking about John 3:16. This scripture says, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” As Ben points out, this is by far the most important and simplest description of the Gospel that one could ever have. Ben also reiterates, using Romans 8:31–39 that there is no credible argument for God not loving you. He drives home the point in the phrase “**no matter what, no matter where**” which is short for “**No Matter what you have done... no matter where you have been... Jesus is for you.**” But the story doesn’t stop there. As we continue to grow and become more like Jesus, we learn to love others just as God loved us. Meaning, we should add to the above statement “...and so are we.” Remember, “**No Matter what you have done...no matter where you have been...Jesus is for you...and so are we.**”

#### // Biblical Context

The book of John was written by John the Apostle, who made clear in John 20:30–31 his purpose for writing the Letter. Verse 31 reads, “but these things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.” Romans 8:31–39 was written with the sole purpose of standing against all things that would condemn a believer in Jesus. Paul, the writer of Romans, wrote this section to re-emphasize a statement made at the beginning of this chapter. Paul says in Romans 8:1 “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” and carries that theme through the totality of the chapter, showing us that it was not our righteousness that saved us, but the righteousness that comes from Jesus the Christ.

#### // Community Questions

1. What is one cliché that you heard growing up?
2. What is one cliché that you use often?

**// Discussion Questions**

1. Do you find yourself believing you are a special case of “brokenness?” Do you make a list of excuses as to why you are not eligible for eternal life with God, other than simply because He loves you?
2. What experiences or areas of your life make it challenging to believe God’s love for you is limitless?
3. How can you personally own the phrase, “No Matter What, No Matter Where” in your own life?

**// Challenge**

Reflect on John 3:16 every day this week. Any time you come up with an excuse as to why Jesus couldn’t possibly love you, call it out for what it is-- a lie.