

# The Adventure Begins

14 Devotions for New Believers

## **The Big Giveaway**

**Memorize This:** I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you. - John 13:34 (NIRV)

**Big Idea:** I can share God's love with the world.

### **Think About This:**

Have you ever been given a gift so big, you couldn't use it all yourself?

Imagine it's your birthday and your crazy aunt gives you a membership into the Ice Cream of the Day Club. Then a few days later, a huge truck backs up to your house, and the driver begins unloading giant barrels of ice cream. Before you know it the barrels are stacked everywhere. They're in every room in your house and even all over your yard.

You can't believe it. You've hit the jackpot!

As soon as the truck drives away, you grab a spoon and start eating and eating and eating and eating and eating. You love it. It's awesome, but it doesn't take long before you realize there's no way you can eat all of that ice cream. You can't even finish one barrel.

Then imagine if that same truck shows up the next day with a new flavor and keeps coming back day after day after day.

You would have a big choice to make, wouldn't you? What would you do with all of that ice cream? You would only have three options: eat it, give it away, or let it melt. You know you can't eat it all. It would be a waste to let it melt. So that leaves only one good choice—start giving it away.

But who would you give it to? To everyone, everywhere! You would have so much ice cream you couldn't be picky. You would just have to give it away every chance you got.

Why am I telling you a crazy story about ice cream? Because God's love is like that. In Ephesians 1, Paul says God lavished His grace on us. Do you know what lavished means? It means giving someone a bunch of something, way more than they actually need. It's like every day God backs a big truck up to your house and just pours His love out on you. He gives you way more than you could ever use yourself.

So what are you going to do with all that love, just waste it or give it away? There's really one one good choice.

Give it away! To everyone, everywhere! You have so much love from God you can't be picky about who you give it to. You just have to give it away every chance you get.

What does that look like? It looks like this:

- Treating everyone the way Jesus would, not because you have to but because you get to.
- Looking for people who are lonely, sad or in need and helping them.
- Hanging out with people who are different than you.
- Standing up for people who others make fun of.
- Sharing your stuff even when you don't have to.
- Letting others go first.
- Thinking about what's good for other people and not just for you.
- Loving people who are far away.
- Loving people who live in your own house.
- Treating everyone like they're a big deal to you because they are a big deal to God.

### **Put It Into Action:**

Ask God to send you one person to love each day. Find a way to make a difference in their life by giving away God's big love that He's already poured out on you.

**Prayer:**

God, thank You for lavishing your love on me. There is so much that I could never use it all myself. Help me to give some away to someone else today. Amen.