

# GOD DOESN'T GIVE VALENTINES



**Message:** How much God loves us

**Scripture:** John 3:16

**Props:** A few Valentine cards

Happy Valentine's Day! Did you get any Valentine cards this week? Well, I brought a few with me today. It's amazing how many different kinds of Valentine cards there are. Big ones, little ones, "lovey-dovey" ones, funny ones, cards with ribbons – even cards that play music! You name it.

Yes, there are lots of different Valentine cards, but they all have one thing in common. Can you see what it is? They all have hearts on them. That's because the heart is a symbol of love. It might be the kind of love you have for a friend, or it might be the kind of love you have for a brother or a sister. It might be the kind of love Moms and Dads have for each other, or it might be the kind of love boyfriends and girlfriends have for each other.

So people give Valentines to show how much they love each other. But you know what? God doesn't give Valentine cards to show his love for us. He gives us something much better. Let me read you the most famous verse in the whole Bible: John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (KJV)

In other words, God loves us so much that instead of giving us a Valentine, he gave us Jesus so that we could have eternal life. And that's a lot better than a Valentine card, don't you think?

Maybe we could think of that the next time we get a Valentine – or the next time we give one. Maybe we could think of just how much God loves us.

Let's pray: Father God, thank you for loving us so much that you gave us Jesus and you gave us eternal life. Help us to do our very best to love others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Song: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"