

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO

♡ A.D. 16 ♡

This informational guide has been prepared to serve as a resource to help you navigate meaningful conversations with your teenager around themes presented in Olney Theatre's production of *A.D. 16*: love and selflessness. We've designed it for you both to do together. We hope this provides context for your experience!



☆ Pre-Show Questions ☆

1. What is your definition of love?
2. How do you prefer to show your love to someone you care about? How do you prefer to receive love?
3. Who is someone in your life who has shown you unconditional love? How did this person impact your life?
4. What types of relationships do you value in your personal life (emotional, platonic, romantic, familial)? What factors play a role in how you value each of these?
5. How have your friendships changed over time? How do you believe these changes have affected you and your views on relationships?
6. What is something you used to believe about relationships that you no longer do? Why did your mindset change?
7. What do you believe are healthy pillars of any relationship? Is there a way to measure these healthy components in your own relationships?



Intermission Activities

Life in the First-Century Trivia

Have you ever wondered what life was like in the first-century? Take this quiz to find out how much you know about what it was like to live in Nazareth 2000 years ago! Check your answers at the bottom of page 4.

1. What kind of milk was a staple for the people in Nazareth?
 - A. Sheep milk
 - B. Cow milk
 - C. Camel milk
 - D. Goat milk
2. What did the people of Nazareth use to eat their food?
 - A. Small Stones
 - B. Rope
 - C. Bread
 - D. Animal Meats
3. How long was the journey from Magdala to Nazareth?
 - A. 7-8 miles
 - B. 14-19 miles
 - C. 21-27 miles
 - D. 36-41 miles
4. Which of the following was NOT a way to show gratitude for receiving hospitality in someone's home during the 1st century?
 - A. Leaving food on your plate
 - B. Reciting a blessing for the host
 - C. Not offering food to another person without the host's consent
 - D. Eating all of the food on your plate
5. What is Nazareth's unofficial nickname?
 - A. The Flower of Galilee
 - B. The Prize of Galilee
 - C. The Best Part of Galilee
 - D. The Spirit of Galilee
6. What were the top three professions for working-class citizens in Nazareth during the 1st century?
 - A. Miners, Tentmakers, Butchers
 - B. Farmers, Fishers, Cattlers
 - C. Metal-Smiths, Mourners, Drivers
 - D. Artisans, Herders, Merchants

Fun Fact: Not only was bread essential to the first century diet, but flat bread (similar to pita) was also commonly used as a plate!

Fun Fact: Working class members trained and drove camels in Nazareth! This actually was considered to be low-skilled labor.

Intermission Activities

What's Your Love Language?

A.D. 16 is a musical that explores different kinds of love. Characters discover self-love, first loves, and what it means to love unconditionally. Some characters even misinterpret certain acts of love because they aren't how they would choose to show love. *The Five Love Languages* is a book by Gary Chapman about how to express commitment to your partner. The book explores five simple ways that people want to show and be shown love (the five examples are featured below).

Love Language	Description	Example of Giving	Example of Receiving
Words of Affirmation	You enjoy verbal connection or affection	Telling someone that they did a great job after their presentation	You value hearing "I'm so lucky to have you" from a friend
Quality Time	You value spending time with your loved ones and having someone's undivided attention	Facetiming a friend who lives long distance	Accepting an invitation to meet a friend for lunch
Acts of Service	You enjoy lending or receiving a helping hand	Making coffee for someone in the morning	Enjoying the soup someone makes you when you have a cold
Gifts	You feel loved by gifting visual symbols of love and recognize the value of the gift-giving process	Giving someone who loves coffee a Starbucks gift card	Feeling loved when someone makes you a custom Spotify playlist
Physical Touch	You value physical signs of affection	Giving someone a hug when they are feeling down	Feeling loved when someone holds your hand while walking

Want to find out what your love language is?

Take the quiz by clicking on the heart!





Post-Show Questions



1. What types of relationships does Mary value in *A.D. 16*? How did they each play a role in her life throughout the musical?
2. In *A.D. 16*, Mary believes that Jesus will fall in love with her if she can successfully lead the Lepers into the city. Why does this backfire for her?
3. How did Mary successfully practice selfless love by the end of *A.D. 16*? How can you practice this in your own life?
4. Based on what is presented in *A.D. 16*, let's imagine that Mary and Jesus have different love languages (ex: Mary enjoys Quality Time while Jesus loves Acts of Service). How do you believe these differences would ultimately impact their relationship? Do you believe it is important to understand your partner's love language to fully appreciate them?
5. Jacob continued to show love to Mary throughout the musical, even when she had a different perception of his actions. Have you ever known someone who did not fully appreciate the way you were showing your love? How did this feel? How did you both communicate with one another?
6. What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?

