

Lesson #26: God Is Love
1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/SibsKR0NUDM>

Worship Theme: God is love.

Memory Verse: “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” (John 13:34)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. The love of Jesus <https://youtu.be/W7hfRd0undE>
2. Jesus Loves Children https://youtu.be/8iUI62Zo_Co
3. I Have a New Commandment <https://youtu.be/ljo2oGzBFz8>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: “I Love...”



1. Have the children sit in a circle. (It is better to use chairs if possible)
2. Select one child to be the leader and stand in the circle.
3. This child will say, “I love children who _____” (Example: “I love children who have long hair.” or “I love children with short pants” or “I love children with glasses.”) Whoever fits the description must get up from their seats and change to another seat. The child who was the leader must sit quickly when someone gets up.
4. A child who could not find a new seat will be the next leader and say, “I love children who _____.”

Introduction:

What do you love in life? Do you love food? Do you love toys? Do you love gifts? When you love something, you want to keep it close to you. For example, if you love toys, then you want to have the toy near you. Or if you love food, then you want to always have that food to eat. Or if you love someone (like your mom or dad), then you want them to be close to you.

God made you, and he loves you. And because God loves you and me and everyone else, he wants us to stay close to him. One way to show that we are close to him is by showing God’s love for one another.

Bible Story:

There’s a chapter in the Bible known as the love chapter. It’s 1 Corinthians 13. The whole chapter talks about love. Verses 4 and 5 say, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.” Wow! Love is and isn’t a lot of things.

Love is important to God. Jesus said love should be important to us, too. Jesus said, “As I have loved you, so you must love one another” (John 13:34). That’s not always easy! Sometimes we need to ask Jesus to help us love people we don’t like very much. I’m glad God gave us the Bible to help us know how to love.

God wants us to come to him so he can fill us with his love. Even if we’ve done wrong, we can go to God for forgiveness and receive his love. That’s why he sent his Son to die for our sins and rise again. Jesus loves us and died for each one of us so that we can be with him forever. Now that’s true love! God invented true love. God loves us.

God is love, and God wants us to love others. He wants others to know what he's like through our love for them. When we act with love, we please God who loves us.

Questions to discuss:

1. Where is the love chapter in the bible? (1 Corinthians 13)
2. What can we do when it is hard for us to love someone? (Ask Jesus to help us love that person)
3. How did God show his true love for us? (He sent his son Jesus to die for our sins and rise again so that we can be with him forever)
4. What should we do as people who are loved by God? (We should love God and love people too!)

Game: What Is Love?

Materials Needed: Print 1Corinthians 13:4-7 (see below), pencils

Please circle words that describe love:

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

1. Pair up the children and give the printed copy of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 to each group.

2. Ask them to circle all the words that describe love.

3. After about 5 minutes, ask the children to complete what the teacher says (The teacher will pick the group that raises their hand first. The group that says the answer first will get a point.):

a. Love is _____ (patient), love is _____ (kind) . It does not _____ (envy), it does not _____ (boast), it is not _____ (proud). **5** It does not _____ (dishonor others), it is not _____ (self-seeking), it is not _____ (easily angered), it keeps no _____ (record of wrongs). **6** Love does not _____ (delight in evil) but rejoices with _____ (the truth). **7** It always _____ (protects), always _____ (trusts), always _____ (hopes), always _____

(perseveres).

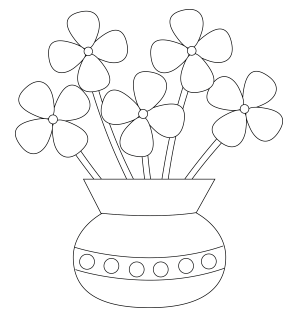
5. Ask children which description of love is their favorite and explain why.

Memory Verse: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (John 13:34)

Craft: Love Flowers

Materials Needed: Print "Love Flowers" (see below), color pencils

1. Give "Love Flowers" to each child.
2. Have the children write descriptions of love from 1Corinthians 13 (use the printed copy used in the game) on the flower petals and then color to decorate.
3. Explain to the children that we must love others because God loves us.



Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Read 1 Corinthians 13 again, and make a list of the ways Paul described love. Circle the words you think describe your quality of love. Place a star next to any attributes that you want Jesus' help to develop in your life. How might your life change if you were able to love perfectly? How would others' lives change? Pray and ask Jesus to improve the quality of your love.

Please circle words that describe love:

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

“Love Flowers”

