

Lesson 13: Love Your Enemies
Luke 6:27-38

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/vvp6QG0ypxs>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/2qc2dt8Ksel>

Worship Theme: God wants us to love everyone.

Memory Verse: "Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6:31)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. I Have a New Commandment <https://youtu.be/llo2oGzBFz8>
2. Everlasting God <https://youtu.be/suW4J1Wbxa4>
3. Our God Is Awesome <https://youtu.be/TU6HfxJXLvQ>

Prayer:

Song: Select songs from the list above

Icebreaker: Grab the Heart!

Materials Needed: (See below to print) Cut out hearts with words like "I love my parents," "I love my sister and brother," "I love my grandparents," "I love my uncle and aunty," "I love my friend," "I love my enemy"



1. Put the hearts in a basket.
2. Divide the children into 2 or 3 groups according to the number of the children.
3. Choose one child from each group, blindfold them with a kroma and ask them to pick a heart from the basket. A child who picks the heart with "I love my enemy" will get the reward

from the teacher.

4. If the child picks any other hearts ("I love my grandparents, I love my uncle and aunty I love my friends") then they will be punished by putting flour or charcoal on their face.

Introduction:

Ask the children what they think about the saying, "I will love my enemy?" How would you feel when someone steals your favorite toy? Or when someone is mean to you? Do you want to hug them and give them gifts? No! You probably want to fight back or be very angry. Today, the bible teaches about what we need to do when someone is mean to us or hurts us. Let's learn and become children who are pleasing to God!

Bible Story:

In the bible story today, Jesus taught that everyone should love their enemies. When the Israelites heard this, they knew what enemies were like. Israel was ruled by Romans during this time, and they were not treated nicely by the Roman soldiers. The Roman government collected taxes from the Israelites and sometimes even hurt them to get what they want. So, it was very hard for the Israelites to agree with Jesus about loving their enemies. How could they love Roman soldiers who were being very mean to them?

In Luke 6:27-31, Jesus says, "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Does this sound like something you can do? Why should we do this? Jesus explains the answer in Luke 6:32-36: “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

Jesus promises that if we love those who are not nice to us, without expecting any reward, then we will get the reward from God! We will be children of the Most High God because God is kind to “the ungrateful and wicked.” In addition, we need to remember that God is merciful to us and loves us even when we make mistakes and act like enemies of God. Treating others with love and kindness can be very hard to do. Only Jesus’ love for us can make us able to love others this way. Because we are God’s children, we must choose God’s ways. God’s way is to love everyone and be nice to everyone, even the ones who hurt us!

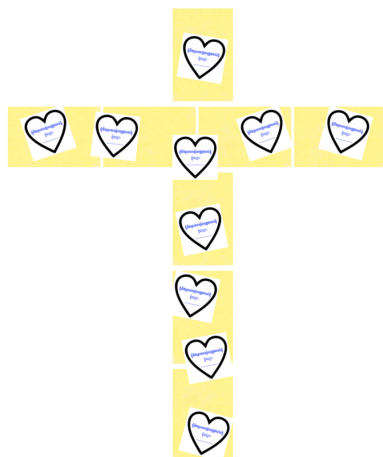
Questions to discuss:

1. Who were the enemies of the Israelites during Jesus’ time? (Romans / Roman soldiers)
2. Why does Jesus say we should love our enemies? (if we love our enemies, we will be rewarded by God)
3. What is another reason that we should love everyone? (Because God loves us even when we act like enemies of God)

Memory Verse: “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” (Luke 6:31)

Craft: “Love My Enemies”

Materials needed: Two hearts cut out for each child (see below for hearts for this craft), a paper cross on the wall



1. Make a big cross on the wall by taping papers on the wall in the shape of a cross.

2. Ask each child to write their names on a heart that says, “I will love my enemies.”

3. Then, blindfold each child and turn them around 5 times before they can tape the heart on the paper cross on the wall. If the child had a hard time finding the cross, the other children can give directions.

4. Once all the children have their turn and the hearts are taped on to the cross, have the children shout, “I will love my enemies because I am a child of God!”

5. Give children another heart to take home. Tell the

children to write the names of someone they do not like, tape the heart on their wall, and pray for them daily.

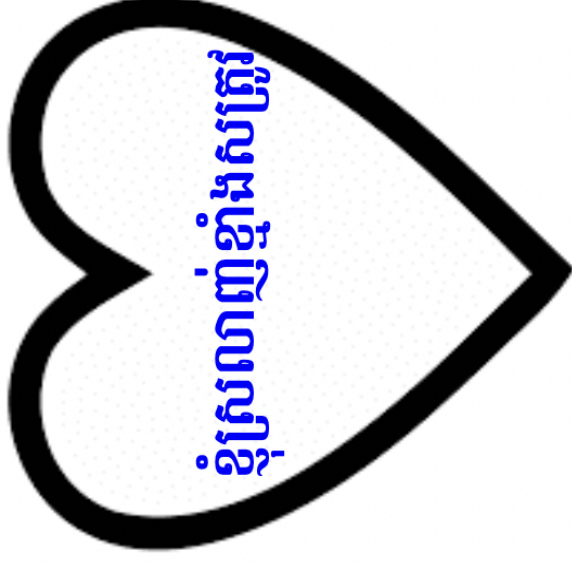
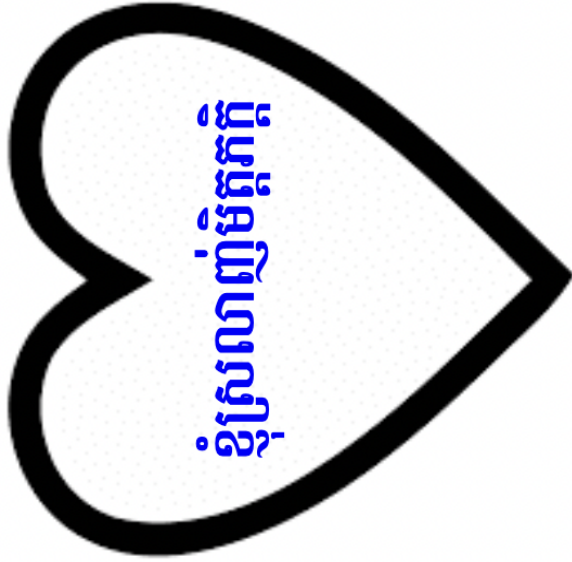
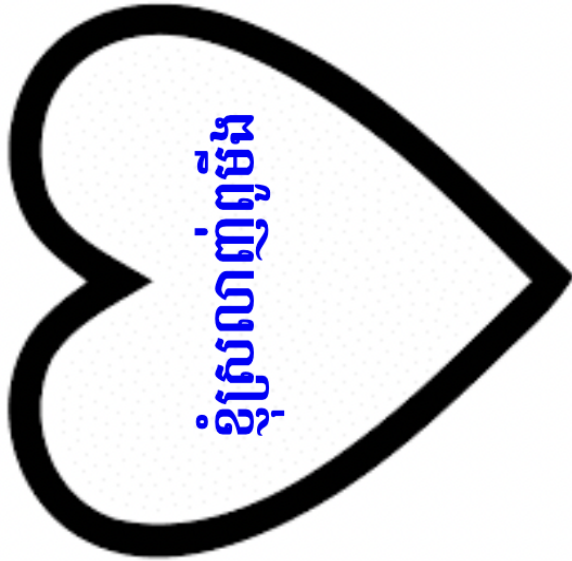
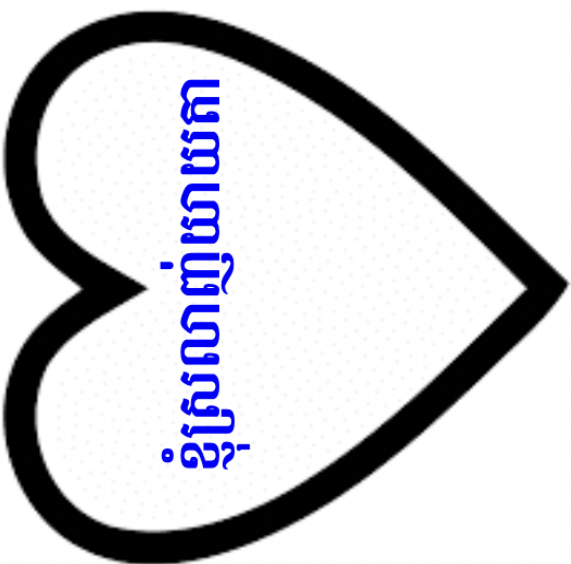
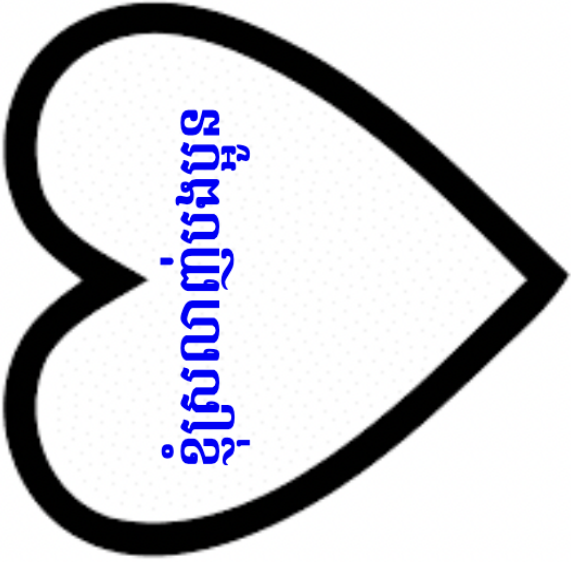
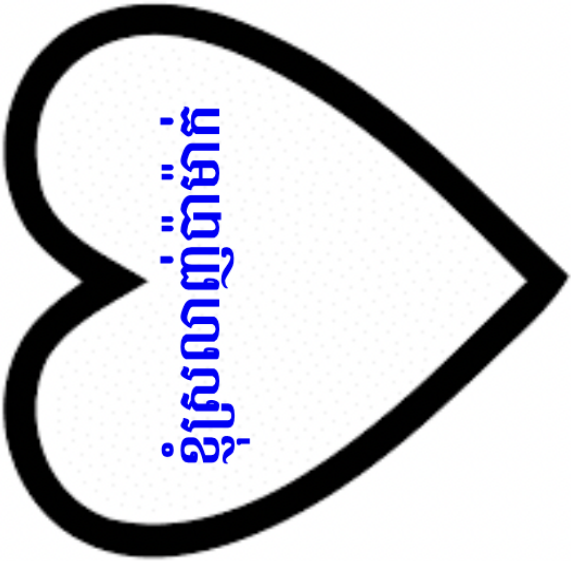
Option 2: “I Will Love My Enemies” Coloring Page

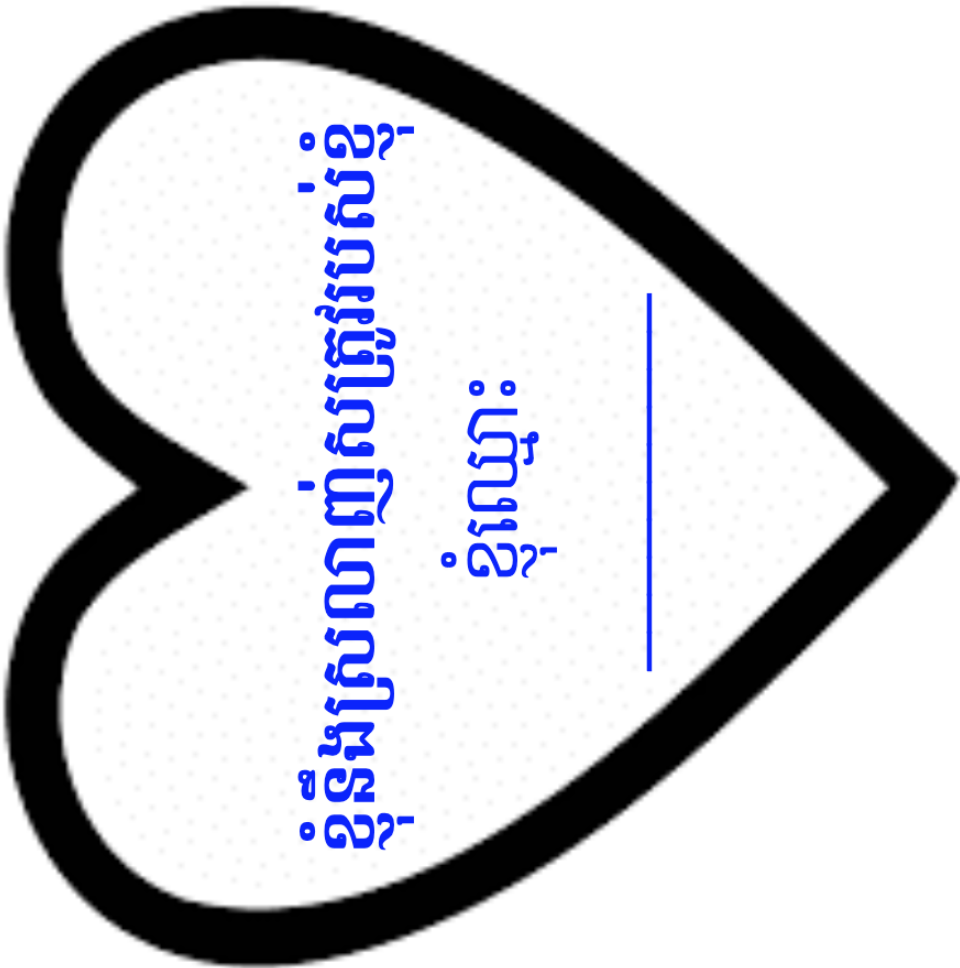
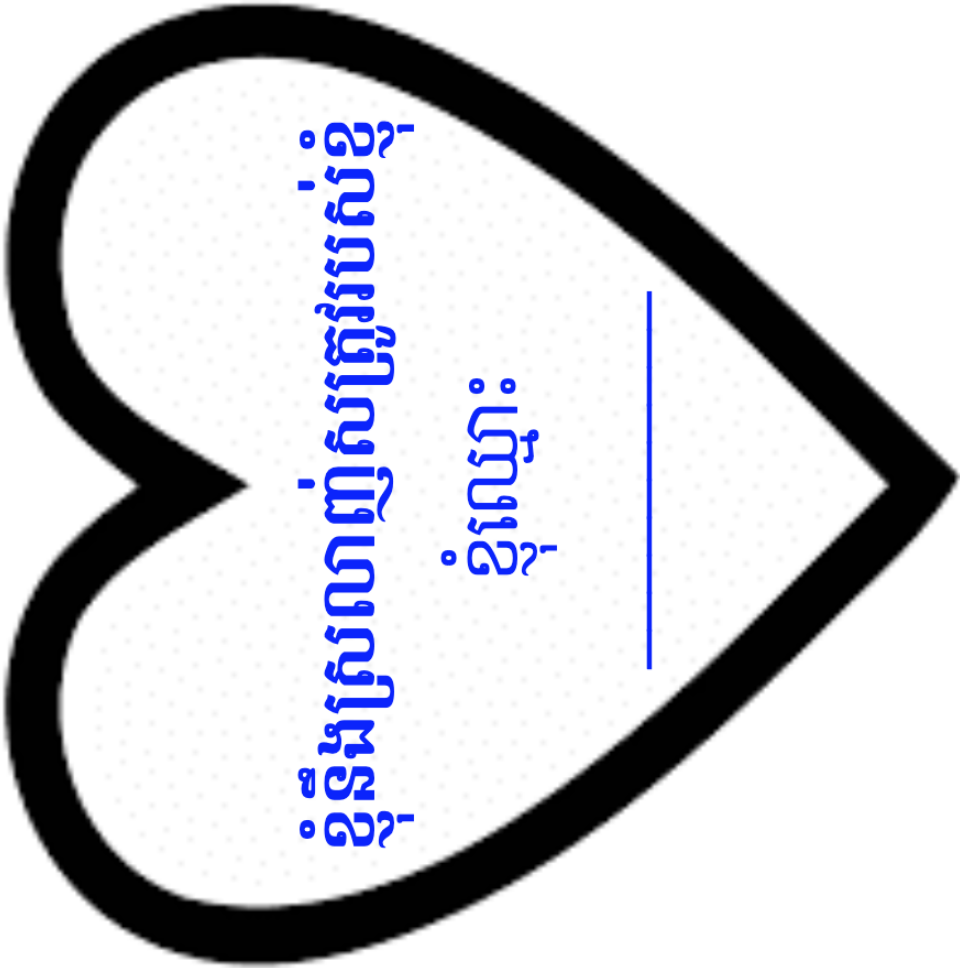
Song: Select songs from the list above

Prayer

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

As we think of loving our enemies, it’s important to be thankful that Jesus drew us into a relationship with himself even when we do not deserve it. Luke 6:31 says, “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” In what areas of your life do you find it difficult to do this? Luke 6:36 says, “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” As our relationship with the Lord grows, we will want to express our love for him by being merciful to others.







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