

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Adapted from <https://www.kidssundayschool.com>

LESSON 2: GOD IS LOVING

Supplies needed:

- A Bible for each parent and child (the International Children's Bible version is very kid-friendly)
- Cardstock paper
- Scissors, glue sticks
- Recycled magazines

PRAY

Include among other petitions:

1. Praise to God for the opportunity to learn together about Him.
2. A request for guidance, especially that the Word of God can be shared in a meaningful way.
3. Ask that the children will be open to learning the Word of God and to invite the Holy Spirit to be present in everyone's heart and in your home.

ACTIVITY

PREPARATION:

Write or type/print the title, "Symbols of Love," at the top of each child's paper and give it to them along with safety scissors, glue, and at least one magazine.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Explain to them that a "symbol" is an object that represents something else (for example, a heart symbolizes love). Ask the children to cut out pictures that remind them of love. Emphasize that each collage should be a reminder of God's love for us, as proven through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Timesaving Option:

Cut out pictures for the children ahead of time. This will also help you avoid inappropriate images.

Increased-Difficulty Option:

List different types of love (such as romantic, parental, spiritual, etc) and ask the children to find at least one picture for each category.

MEMORY WORK

"For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight." Ephesians 1:4a NIV

Print out the attached Memory Verse Sheet for each child. Either allow your child to cut the pieces apart and mix them or do it for him/her. Have a small ziploc bag ready to place the

pieces after finishing this activity. Read the scripture aloud with your children, and then, depending on their age/ability, either help them put the pieces together or encourage them to try themselves. Once completed, ask them to read the verse aloud again. If desired, repeat this process two to three times to further emphasize memorizing this verse.

PRAISE MUSIC - use these or choose your own

[One Thing Remains](#)

[Reckless Love](#)

[Amazing Love](#)

[How Great the Father's Love for Us](#)

The following link is from RightNow Media, which you have a free subscription for through our church. If you have been unable to sign in, please contact Mary Kamas @ 979-777-1038, so you and your family will have access to the wonderful children's programs and adult Bible teaching.

[Praise music of Bible verses for children](#)

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

(You can assign the scriptures to different children to read aloud or read them aloud yourself. However, if you choose to read them, help your children to find the verses, so they will become comfortable with their Bibles.)

Have a piece of paper ready to list ways God shows love.

Introduction:

Ask your children to think of ways that people show love. Then ask them to name ways God shows us His love.

Write these down on the paper.

Make the distinction that biblical "love" is more than a feeling—it is an intentional, sacrificial commitment.

Emphasize that there are different types of love depending on the relationship of the people involved (such as romantic, friendship, parental, spiritual, etc). We receive the greatest example of love from God because He perfectly loves us in spite of our sins.

Read 1 John 4:9 (God lovingly sent Jesus)

Ask your children to state how God demonstrated His love (He sent Jesus).

Add the answer to the introductory list if it is not already present.

Ask:

1. Why is it so important that God sent Jesus to earth? *(Because otherwise our sin would keep us eternally separated from God.)*
2. What do we learn about God's love from this verse? *(That it is sacrificial, committed, willing to provide a way for us to be reconciled regardless of our sin, etc.)*

Read Ephesians 1:4-6 (God lovingly chose us)

Ask your children to comment on any parts of the passage that caught their attention. Emphasize that our adoption into God's family was determined before the world was ever created. Add, "God chose us" to the introductory list if it is not already present.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does it feel when you are chosen to be on someone's team? (*good, important, etc*)
2. How would it feel not to be chosen? (*sad, angry, unloved, etc*)
3. So, what does it say about God that He chose us before creating the earth? (*That His love is eternal.*)

Read Romans 5:5 (God lovingly gave us the Holy Spirit)

After reading give a short synopsis of when and why God gave us the Holy Spirit. (see John 14:26, John 15:26, and Acts 2 for reference). Briefly explain the roles of the Holy Spirit (intercessor, teacher, testifier of the truth, etc). Add, "God gave us the Holy Spirit" to the introductory list if it is not already present.

Discussion Questions:

1. What must we do to receive God's gift of the Holy Spirit? (*Become a believer in Jesus Christ.*)
2. Why would it be harder to follow Christ if we didn't have the Holy Spirit? (*Because the Holy Spirit helps guide our personal relationship with Jesus.*)

Read Romans 1:20 (God lovingly shows Himself through creation)

Discuss a creation that points to the beauty or wisdom of God (such as a sunrise or blooming flower). Emphasize that God's creations lovingly point us to acknowledge Him and ultimately accept His plan for salvation through Jesus Christ. And, because of this incredible display of love, no one has an excuse for denying God. Add, "God shows Himself through nature" to the introductory list if it is not already present.

Discussion Questions:

1. What creations amaze you? (*Allow for discussion.*)
2. What do we learn about God's love through this passage? (*That it encompasses everything and is impossible to ignore.*)

ACTIVITY 1- CHARADES

Print out and cut apart the prompts (each prompt is an example of how the children can show God's love to others). If desired, you may use some or your own.

What to do:

Split your family into two groups. Explain that this game involves acting out the clues on the cards to their teams (one at a time) without making any sounds. Tell the children that each clue is an example of a loving action. Each person will have one minute to act out his or her chosen card. However, the other team will receive a chance to guess the clue if the actor's team is unsuccessful. Each correctly guessed clue receives one point. Allow each child to have at least one turn acting out a clue.

Conclude by emphasizing that showing God's love to others is extremely important if we want them to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Serving others in love isn't necessarily difficult, but we must ask God to help us become more humble, kind-hearted, and sacrificial so others will be drawn to Him through our actions.

ACTIVITY 2 - PUZZLE

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give each child a pencil or marker and a copy of the word scramble puzzle. Tell your students that the scrambled verse of scripture will help them learn five things about God's love for them.

CLOSE IN PRAYER