

August 13
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE
1 Corinthians 13

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How do we know God loves us? We can know that God loves us because He sent His Son, Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE: *While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

Key Passage Phrase: *God sent His Son, Jesus. Romans 5:8*

LEARN

1. GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON

Introduce the Bible Story

As preschoolers gather in the group time area, ask them to tell about a time they received a card or a letter. Encourage them to tell who it was from and how they felt when they received it. To simplify, ask children who likes to receive a letter or card.

SAY *Many times people might put a letter or card they wrote in an envelope to give someone. Sometimes it might be a card to show love to someone. The last couple of weeks our Bible stories have been in the book of John in the New Testament. We have learned about how God loves us. Today, our Bible story is in another New Testament book, 1 Corinthians, and we will hear that God loves all people. A man named Paul wrote a letter to a church in Corinth. Let's listen to hear what Paul wrote in his letter.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY *Our big picture question is, How do we know God loves us? And the answer is, We can know that God loves us because He sent His Son, Jesus. Paul wrote the letter to the Christians in Corinth to tell them about God's love. God's love is always kind, always patient, and never ends. His love is so great, He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins.*

4. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask the following review questions:

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. Who wrote the letter to the believers in Corinth? (*Paul*)
3. Why does God want us to love others? (*Answers may include so they will understand God loves them, so we can tell them about Jesus, and other similar answers about loving others.*)
4. What does our key passage tell us is the reason Christ died for us? (*because we were sinners*)
5. ***How do we know God loves us? We can know that God loves us because He sent His Son, Jesus.***

SAY *Paul, a follower of Jesus, wrote a letter to believers in a city called Corinth. Paul said that God gives believers special ways to help people or to serve God. Paul wrote about what love is like: 'Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous. Love is not rude. It is not grumpy, and it does not remember wrong things that people have done. Love is not happy when people do wrong things; it is happy about the truth.' The Bible says God is love. God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.*

5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Romans 5:8. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage.

Lead children to say the passage together. Guide children to keep a steady beat by clapping their hands or patting their knees. Suggest preschoolers practice the verse a few more times as they keep a steady beat.

SAY *We have learned our key passage the last few weeks. It reminds us: 'While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.' Romans 5:8. We all sin. We make wrong choices. Jesus always did the right thing and never sinned. Jesus loves us so much that He came and took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross. He rose from the grave and He is alive. God loves us so much that*

6. PRAY

SAY *Dear God, thank You for Your love for us. Thank You that You tell us what love is and what it is not. Please help us to love others the way Jesus loves us. Amen.*

ACTIVITIES

PLAY OUT ACTIONS

Encourage preschoolers to think of ways they can show love. If needed, give suggestions such as wash the dishes, help cook a meal, set the table, and pick up toys. Choose a child to whisper to you one way he can show love. Encourage him to play it out for the others to guess what he is doing. Continue the game, giving each child an opportunity to play out ways to show love. Talk about each way they can show love after the action is guessed. Continue play as time allows.

SAY *What was your favorite action you did to show love? What other things can you think of that show love to others? In our Bible story, we heard about what love is and we learned what love is not. Do you think it can be hard to show love to others? Why is that? God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.*

PLAY DOUGH ACTIVITY

FOUR YEAR OLDS: SPELL LOVE

Write *love* on a piece of paper for the preschoolers to reference. Place play dough on a table for children to use. Model for the children how to roll out the dough and form the letters in the word *love*. Guide the children to make the letters to spell the word.

SAY *You made the letters in the word love with the play dough. Paul wrote about love in his letter to the church in Corinth. Paul said that love is patient and kind. Love does not want things that belong to others. Love is not mean or selfish. It is not grumpy, and it does not remember wrong things that people have done. What is a way that you can show love to someone today?*

For Younger Kids:

THREE YEAR OLDS: MAKE PLAY DOUGH HEARTS

Provide heart-shaped cookie cutters. Guide each toddler to use her hands to make the play dough flat. Help each toddler press the cookie cutter inside of the play dough to create hearts. Review each of the things Paul said love is from our Bible story.

SAY *In our Bible story, Paul talked about what love is. He said that love is patient, kind, and happy about the truth. He said love is a gift. God's gift of love never ends. God loves all people.*

ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY *God loves all people. He commands everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 13 and tell the following Bible story. Use the bold version for younger preschoolers.

GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE

STORYTELLING TIPS

Show a heart: Prepare paper hearts with the characteristics of love written on them (*patient, kind, not rude, not selfish, truthful*, and so forth). Each time you tell of a characteristic of love, stick a heart to the wall. Emphasize that God is all these things, because God is love.

Listen for “love”: Give each child a large paper heart. Direct children to hold up the heart when they hear the word *love*.

*What is love? People have different ideas about what love is. **The Bible says God is love. He loves all people! And because God loves us, we can love others.***

*Paul, a follower of Jesus, **wrote a letter to believers** in a city called Corinth. **Paul said that God gives believers spiritual gifts—special abilities to help people or to serve God. He said the greatest gift is love.***

*Paul wrote, “**If I speak different languages but do not have love, I’m just making noise like a loud gong or clanging cymbal. If I speak God’s truth, or if I know everything, or if I have great faith but do not have love, then I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions but do not have love, I gain nothing.**”*

*Then Paul wrote about what love is like: “**Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or proud. Love is not rude or selfish. It is not grumpy, and it doesn’t remember wrong things that people have done. Love is not happy when people do wrong things; it is happy about the truth. Love does not give up, is always trusting, is always hoping, and never quits.***

*“**God’s gift of love never ends.** Gifts like prophecies and speaking other languages and having knowledge will one day end. Love never ends. One day, we will see God face to face and we will know Him perfectly. **These gifts won’t go away: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.**”*

Christ Connection: God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God is love, and God loves all people. He calls everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child’s sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today’s activity page to reinforce today’s Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

August 13
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds
GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE
1 Corinthians 13

CHRIST CONNECTION: God loves all people. He wants everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead..

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: *God sent his son Jesus. Romans 5:8*

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY

Lead the toddlers in a game of “Follow the Command,” using the traditional follow-the-leader rules. Choose a leader for the rest of the toddlers to follow. Allow the leader to complete a few commands and choose a new leader. Assign new leaders and play as time permits.

SAY *In our game, the command was to follow the person in front of you. Paul was a follower of Jesus who served God. He wrote a letter to a church in Corinth. Let’s listen to our Bible story to hear what Paul had to say.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

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3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker at Romans 5:8. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead preschoolers to stand and pretend to draw water from a well as they say the key passage phrase a few times as a group.

ACTIVITIES

WALK OUT THE LOVE CHANT

Guide the toddlers in forming a line. Call out the letters *L-O-V-E*. Repeat the letters and have the toddlers repeat after you. Encourage the toddlers to stomp their feet and clap their hands as they march around calling out each letter. Review the Bible story.

SAY *God’s gift of love never ends. These gifts will not go away: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love. Who loves us? Jesus! Should we love others? Yes! God loves all people.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY *Jesus loves everyone. He came to give people salvation from sin. When we trust in Jesus, we worship Him as our Lord and Savior.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE

Paul, a follower of Jesus, wrote a letter to the people in Corinth. Paul said that God gives people who trust in Jesus special abilities to help people or to serve God. He said the greatest gift is love. Paul wrote: “Love is patient and kind. Love does not want things that belong to others. Love is not mean or selfish. It is not grumpy, and it does not remember wrong things that people have done. Love is not happy when people do wrong

things; it is happy about the truth. Love is always trusting, is always hoping, and never quits. God's gift of love never ends. These gifts will not go away: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.”

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.