



THE GOSPEL PROJECT SR. UNIT 31 Lesson 5: Love One Another/ Mom's Day

Date: Sunday May 12th, 2019 **Teachers:** Isaiah Dunk, Monica Bailey, Sophia Bailey

Bible Passage: 1 John 3:10-18

Main Point: John wrote that others will know we are Christians because we love one another.

Key Passage: Galatians 2:20

Big Picture Question: Why does God want us to obey Him? Obedience is our response to God's love for us.

OPENING "Love in Action" materials: (none) (Monica, Sophia)

Read the following scenarios aloud. For each scenario, guide kids to discuss how they could show love in the situation.

Your brother really wants to play outside with you, but Mom asked him to fold the laundry first. There is a lot of laundry to fold!

You see a classmate sitting alone at lunch, but you usually sit with your friends.

You hear some other kids making fun of a new kid at school.

Your friend is upset because her parents won't let her go to a concert.

You have money to buy a snack after school but your friend doesn't have any money.

You see a classmate getting frustrated with a math problem.

Say • Choosing to show love is not always easy. Sometimes we want to do what is best for ourselves instead of helping others.

This is why we must remember the good news about Jesus: He showed us what love is by laying down His life for our sins. We can love others because God first loved us.

INTRO TO LESSON: *Isaiah*

We've been hearing about letters to God's people. After the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—and after the Book of Acts, the next 21 books in the New Testament are letters. Many of them were written by Paul. Three of them were written by John, and others are by Peter, James, and Jude.

These letters were written to certain groups of believers. Today's Bible story comes from 1 John, which is a letter John wrote to believers to help them as they followed Jesus. One thing he told them to do is to love one another.

BIBLE STORY: (video)

BIBLE STORY REVIEW: (Isaiah)

John wrote about love because God is love. [See 1 John 4:8.] Love comes from God. If we truly love God, we will love one another. We can be willing to lay down our lives for one another, putting others' needs before our own. Jesus' love for us does not change. He will never love us less if we sin or more if we obey. His love is perfect and does not depend on feelings. Jesus proved His love for us by dying on the cross to rescue us from sin.

When people see how we love others, they will know that we are children of God because this kind of love can only come from God. Because Jesus loved us first, we can love one another. In fact, God commands us to love one another.

The Bible says that it's not enough just to say we love one another. We must love people by our actions and by telling them the truth about God.

Loving one another is hard work! Love is more than feelings or words—it is action. Jesus showed God's love for us when He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Because God is loving, we can love others. That is why we can obey Jesus' command to love one another.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW SKILLS (Sophia) use the whiteboard, ask kids the question and have 2 markers there , the first one to run up and write the correct answer wins.

Who wrote 1 John? (John)

What testament is 1 John in? (New Testament)

What message did John remind believers of? (We should love one another, 1 John 3:11)

How do we know what love is? (Jesus laid down His life for us, 1 John 3:16)

Why does God want us to obey Him? Obedience is our response to God's love for us.

Say• The world is broken and filled with sin. That's why perfect love is so amazing; it doesn't happen naturally. Perfect love, the kind Jesus showed on the cross, comes only from God. When people display perfect love, it shows that they have been transformed by God's perfect love. John wrote that others will know we are Christians because we love one another.

DISCUSSION VIDEO: (Isaiah)

You can tell a lot about a person by what he or she does. Remember that as you watch this video.

Show the "Unit 31, Session 4" discussion starter video. Then lead kids to discuss the following questions:

How did Nell know who each person was?

What did John say about how others will know we are Christians?

What are some ways we can show love to others?

ACTIVITY: (Monica) materials: (paper in bin, pencil crayons in bag) Sometimes the hardest people to love are the people closest to us, including our mom's. Today is mother's day and we are going to take some time to write a poem for mom's day using our mom's name or the word **mom**. Help kids be creative and help them write their mom's name and you can write the words for the poem they think of!

ACTIVITY: colour activity sheet if time

The BIBLE STORY
Love One Another
1 John 3:10-18

As one of Jesus' closest friends, the apostle John had lived alongside Jesus. He had witnessed Jesus' life and teachings himself. Now, some 50 years after Jesus had returned to heaven, John was an older man. He knew who Jesus really was,

and he wrote a letter to help believers understand that Jesus was—and is—the Son of God.

John showed that God is love. If believers truly love God, they will also love one another—and that love must be shown in what believers say and do.

John said that people who are God's children live differently than people who are not God's children. Believers do what is right, and they love one another. This is not a new message. Jesus told us to love one another too.

John wrote that others will know we are Christians because we show love to one another.

John told about Cain and Abel. Why did Cain kill Abel? Cain killed his brother because he did what was evil and his brother did what was good. Cain hated Abel. John explained that people who do not love others are controlled by the power of death. God has set every believer free from the power of death. He has loved us and has given us life, so we can love one another.

We know what love is because Jesus showed us. He laid down His life for us. Because of Jesus' power, we can—and should—love like that too. When we have something that our brother needs, we should give it to him.

If someone has enough to help but turns away and does nothing, does that person really know God's love?

John said that we must not just talk about loving others. We must love them by our actions and by telling them the truth.

Christ Connection: John wrote a letter to teach believers in the church about the importance of showing love. Love is more than feelings or words—it is an action. Jesus showed God's love for us when He died on the cross to rescue people from sin.