

City LG—June 5th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: What Is Love? (We Love Because God Loved Us) • 1 John 4:9-13

Today's Bottom Line: Love others because God loves you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.* Galatians 5:22-23a (NIRV)

REMINDER: Kids will need to be grouped into Small Groups to begin Service

WORSHIP: Zeal and Fireblazin'

CG: Summer JAM Slide

"Summer JAM is coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Visit the Summer Jam Tents after our time together today to sign up!"

"Hi, everyone! It's so fun how we're talking about making waves this summer. With the help of God's Spirit, we can make waves in all sorts of ways: by showing things like love, joy, patience, faithfulness, and self-control.

"Today, let's talk about that first one: love. We can all make waves by showing love to everyone around us. God's Spirit can HELP us show love. In fact, God has been showing love since the very beginning of the world!"

"In the beginning, God created everything. God made animals, trees, water, clouds, mountains—all of it! But PEOPLE were the most amazing part of all God's creation, because people were created in the image of God. But Adam and Eve made a wrong choice, and they sinned. What was supposed to be perfect was now broken..."

"Oh, no! That's not good, is it? But don't worry. God already had a plan to fix what was broken. God would bring people back into a relationship with Him and make things right again.

"We can find examples of God's great rescue plan throughout the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) God promised Abraham that his family would grow into a great nation.

"God said that Abraham and his wife, Sarah, would have as many children as there are stars in the sky. And God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. Sure enough, even though Abraham and Sarah were old, God gave them a son named Isaac. Then Isaac had a son named Jacob. And Jacob had twelve sons who started families, and God grew those twelve families into an entire nation!

"God continued to show love for people through the amazing stories we find throughout the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) God showed love in the lives of men and women like Moses, David, and Ruth.

"Over time, God's people kept turning away and trying to do things their OWN way. Eventually, God allowed them to be captured as prisoners. But even then, God sent prophets: people who gave hints that God was sending a Rescuer to save us, once and for all."

"At just the right moment, God sent Jesus. That's what this week's video is all about. Take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 7:00)

"Jesus showed what it truly means to love God and love others. Then, Jesus gave up His life on the cross. Jesus took all our sin and brokenness on Himself when He died."

"God's love is powerful! God's love CHANGES us. And since we've experienced God's love for ourselves, that makes us want to share God's love with others. Let's learn this week's Bottom Line!"

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Love others because God loves you.

“Imagine what a difference it would make in the world around us if we chose to live each day with LOVE. We’d really make waves! Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

PRAY: “Dear God, thank You so much for the gift of Your love to us through Jesus. We can see how You’ve shown love to Your people throughout history, all the way to today. Please show us how we can respond to Your great love by choosing to love others. Thank You for giving us Your Spirit to help us! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Doesn’t it make you feel so good to know how much God loves us? God has been showing love to people ever since the very beginning. God showed love in the BIGGEST way by sending Jesus to be our Savior. And Jesus showed how great His love is by giving His life for our sins.

“That kind of love changes us. It makes us want to love other people, because we know how powerful God’s love can be.

“That’s what we need to remember today.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Love others because God loves you.

“When we believe in Jesus, we have a relationship with God that lasts forever AND God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us through life! It’s through the help of God’s Spirit that we can make waves and show love.”

“Our memory verse this month is Galatians 5:22-23a. It helps us understand what God’s Spirit can do in our lives.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

“God’s Spirit can cause all those good things in US!”

OFFERING:

“All Summer we are giving our offering to help dig water wells in the Country of Malawi! When you bring your offering each week, it will go to making sure that the people of Malawi will be able to have clean water to drink, cook with, and more. So if you brought your offering, you can bring it up now!”

CG: Malawi Wells Video