

### LESSON 1

## GOD'S AMAZING LOVE

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 8; 1 John 3

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** Paul and John remind the early Christians that no matter what hardships they face, God loves them. As Jesus-followers, we can know that nothing can separate us from God's love.

**Activity: Magnet Exploration**

**Activity: Find the Hearts**

**Worship**

**God's Big Story**

**Prayer and Blessing**

**Activity: Sticky Art**

**Wonder@Home™**

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

## Intro Activity: Magnet Exploration

**SUPPLIES:** magnetic tiles or large magnets (1 per kid)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

**Welcome! I'm so excited that you are here today! Today we're going to play with magnets. Do you want to try?**

Give kids a large magnet and encourage them to move around the room looking for things that the magnet will stick to. Be sure you have identified good examples ahead of time so you can direct them to those places.

If you prefer, you can also set up tiles and magnetic objects they will stick to in one area for kids to explore. Be sure all items are big enough not to be a choking hazard.

**Magnets stick to one another. It reminds me of how God's love sticks with us! That's what we're learning about today.**

## Activity: Find the Hearts

**SUPPLIES:** scissors (prep only)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Find the Hearts Sheets

Before the activity, print the Find the Hearts Sheets and cut the shapes apart.

Gather kids together.

**I'm going to hold up a shape. If you see a heart, you can clap! Let's practice that now!** Hold up a picture of a heart and encourage kids to clap.

Continue holding up the shapes, encouraging clapping for each heart.

**Hearts remind me of love. We all have people who love us. Who are some people who love us?** Allow kids to respond. List examples of people who love us (moms, dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents, friends, teachers, etc.).

**God loves us too, and His love is the best kind of love! His love is so special because nothing can ever separate us from God's love.**

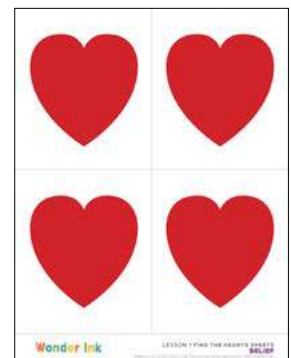
**Our Wonder Truth today is NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM GOD'S LOVE.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

**NOTHING**—Shake head side to side.

**CAN SEPARATE US**—Push hands together in front of you and then pull them apart.

**FROM GOD'S LOVE.**—Place hands over your heart.



## Worship

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** songs from the [Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we're learning nothing can separate us from God's love.

We'll learn in God's big story how God loves us no matter what and how nothing can separate us from His love! Let's sing about God's great love now!

Play songs from the [Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, painter's tape

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** [God's Big Story Video](#)

**Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible written by a person named Paul.**

Encourage the kids to say, "Paul." **Let's find out from the Bible what Paul said!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided.

Before the activity, create an obstacle course using painter's tape. Include straight and zigzag lines.

Gather kids into a line at the beginning of the obstacle course. Instruct them to carefully follow the leader while the story is told. Move through the obstacle course as the story is being told.

**The early church met in houses instead of buildings. Different people gathered to become more like Jesus.** Stop and say: **Nothing can separate us from God's love!** Move on the path again.

**The early Christians faced many troubles, but they always knew that God loved them.** Stop and say: **Nothing can separate us from God's love!** Move on the path again.

**Paul reminded them nothing could separate them from God's love. Not trouble or hard times, harm or hunger, danger or war—nothing they could see or touch could take away God's love.** Stop and say: **Nothing can separate us from God's love!** Move on the path again.

**Paul said no evil or enemy of God could take away God's love.** Stop and say: **Nothing can separate us from God's love!** Stay in one place for the rest of the storytelling or move to the end of the path if you have not reached it yet.

**Another follower of Jesus, John, told early Christians that God's love changes people and helps them make right choices. God's love is meant to be shared. Jesus showed us God's love when He died to save others. We can care for others by showing compassion and helping one another. This shows God's love to others. God has given us everything, and nothing can separate us from God's love.**

## Prayer and Blessing

**Let's talk to God. Copy my motions as we are praying. Dear God, thank You for loving us in good times** (thumbs up) **and in hard times** (thumbs down). **Thank You for showing Your love for us by sending Jesus** (place hand over heart). **Help us show Your love to others this week** (extend arms outward as if offering a big hug). **In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** **May you feel God's special love for you no matter what happens. May you remember to show God's love to others!**

## Activity: Sticky Art

**SUPPLIES:** contact paper, scissors (prep only), painter's tape, assorted small objects (craft sticks, pom-poms, pipe cleaners, etc.)

Before the activity, cut a large piece of contact paper and tape it to the table using painter's tape on the edges. Make sure the sticky side of the contact paper is facing up. Set out craft supplies (craft sticks, pom-poms, pipe cleaners, etc.) near the contact paper.

Encourage kids to use the craft supplies to create art on the contact paper by sticking the supplies to the paper.

**Wow! This paper is extra sticky! This sticky paper reminds me of God's sticky love. Nothing can separate us from God's love!**

Allow kids to continue to stick objects to the contact paper.