

LESSON 2 TODDLER TIME

LESSON 2 LOVE NEVER FAILS

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Shows Us How to Love

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 13

GOD'S BIG STORY: Paul teaches that love is more important than knowledge or self-sacrifice. It's even greater than faith and hope. Through Paul's words, God—the only One who loves perfectly—shows us how to love.

Object Lesson: Loving Others

Activity: Heart Matching

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Heart Walk



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

Object Lesson: Loving Others

SUPPLIES: baby dolls, stuffed animals, blankets, pretend food, baby bottle

Ahead of time, designate a spot in the room to place the baby dolls, stuffed animals, blankets, pretend food, and baby bottle.

Welcome, friends! I am so glad you came today because I need your help loving and caring for these babies and animals. Hold up baby doll or stuffed animal. Would you like to come join me? What can we do to take care of these friends? Encourage kids to sit with you and show love by cuddling the dolls and animals in blankets, pretending to feed them, or singing a simple song to them.

Wow! You did a great job taking care of our friends here. Do you know who shows us how to love the very best? Allow the kids to respond. It's God! We'll learn today more about how God loves us and shows us how to love others.

Activity: Heart Matching

SUPPLIES: red, pink, and purple cardstock (1 sheet of each color), large foam hearts (3, optional) **Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Heart Sheets

Ahead of time, print the Heart Sheets onto the cardstock. Cut the shapes out and then cut them down

the middle to create different cut patterns. Mix up the pieces and place them on the table. You could also use different cut patterns down the middle of three large foam hearts.

Encourage the kids to pick a specific color heart and put its pieces together. Guide kids by showing them how the pieces fit together to make a heart. Assist kids when they are uncertain.

Hold a couple pieces of the hearts up near each other like they are about

to be put together. I have some hearts here. Hearts make us think of love. But these hearts are broken. Let's put them back together! I'll show you how. Show the kids how to put the correct pieces together.

You all did such a good job putting these hearts back together. We're going to learn more about love and about God showing us how to love today.

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD SHOWS US HOW TO 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.

GOD—Raise both arms up overhead and point to the sky.

SHOWS US—Point toward your chest with both thumbs.

HOW TO LOVE.—Give yourself a hug.



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Wonder Ink

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist

Soon we'll learn about how God shows us how to love. Let's sing about God's love for us and our love for Him!

Play songs from the <u>Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist</u> and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, red cardstock, scissors (prep only) **Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** God's Big Story Video

Before the kids arrive, cut a heart shape from the red cardstock.

God's big story today is a letter from the Bible written by a person named the Paul. Encourage the kids to say, "Paul." Let's find out what Paul wrote in the Bible.

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

Hold up the paper heart. What do hearts remind us of? Pause for answers. Love! When I hold up this heart, you say, "love" really loudly. Practice a couple of times.

The Apostle Paul wanted to teach people how God shows us how to (hold up heart) love.

Paul said that knowing things is good. Paul also said it's good to give or share with others, but it's not the most important thing!

What is the most important thing? Hold up heart. Love! The word (hold up heart) love can mean a lot of things, but Paul means the kind of (hold up heart) love that makes us patient and kind with one another and able to forgive. Hold up heart. Love is full of joy! Hold up heart again. Love is the most important thing. Paul says that (hold up heart) "love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Hold up heart. Love makes us like Jesus. God shows us how to (hold up heart) love.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for all of our friends here today. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to love and be more like You. May Your Spirit guide us in love every day. 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: The God of the universe sees you and loves you! May you experience His goodness every day. Taste and see that the Lord is good! His love for you never ends. Go in joy, sharing His unfailing love with others!

Activity: Heart Walk

SUPPLIES: tape, scissors (prep only), cardstock (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Heart Sheets (1 heart per kid), music from the <u>Walking in Love Early</u> Childhood Spotify playlist

Ahead of time, print the Heart Sheets and cut out one heart for each kid. Tape the Heart Sheets to the floor in the shape of a circle. For extra durability, you may want to print on cardstock.

Today we're going to take a "walk in love" around our circle of hearts as the music plays. Play music from the Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist as you lead the kids around the circle a few times. Isn't it wonderful that God shows us how to love? When finished, invite the kids to cheer as they thank God for His love.

