

LESSON 4

LIVING IN PEACE

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Helps Us Love and Forgive Others

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 3

GOD'S BIG STORY: Paul reminds believers we're called to love and forgive others and that our faith in Christ and His presence in us through the Holy Spirit helps us do both.

Object Lesson: Put on Love

Activity: Live in Peace

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Sticky Note Love

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!

Object Lesson: Put on Love

SUPPLIES: magnetic wooden dress-up dolls and/or toy baby dolls, all with doll clothes

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I'm so happy that you are here today! Let's play with dolls and think about how we can be loving toward others!

Provide a variety of dolls. Magnetic wooden dress-up dolls and/or toy baby dolls, both with doll clothes, would be good options for this activity.

Share with the kids that in God's big story today, we will learn that we should "put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. ... And over all these good things put on love" (Colossians 3:12, 14).

Encourage the kids to play together with the dolls and put the clothes on the dolls. As you play with the kids, narrate your actions. For example: **I'm putting on the baby's hat! Can you put on the baby's hat? Do you see the baby's shirt? I like the doll's pink dress! Do you like it?** Allow the kids to respond.

The Bible says we can put on kindness like we put on clothes. The Bible also says we can put on love kind of like we put on clothes. We'll learn more about that today!

Activity: Live in Peace

We're talking about living in peace with others. That means we are not fighting or upset with others. We can do that by loving, forgiving, and being kind to one another! I'm going to do a motion to each of you that shows one way we can do this. Go to each child and do a motion or action that demonstrates peace. Do not initiate any physical contact that isn't wanted. If a child doesn't want to participate, that's OK. Use the following motions:

- Handshake
- Side hug
- High five
- Prayer
- Hand hold
- Pat on the back

All of these things remind us we can live in peace with others and be loving, kind, and forgiving to them. We'll learn more about that today and how God helps us! God loves us and gives us peace.

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD HELPS US LOVE AND FORGIVE.

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 HELPS US—Point up.

LOVE AND—Place hands on heart.

FORGIVE.—Brush right fingertips along left palm.

Worship

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

Today, we're learning that God helps us love and forgive! God loves us so much and forgives us when we do wrong.

We'll learn in God's big story how God helps us live in peace by loving and forgiving others!

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

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

Our God's big story today is about a letter in the Bible that a man named Paul wrote to the Colossians. Encourage the kids to say, "Colossians." **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.

Today as you listen to God's big story, pay close attention and listen for the word love. When you hear the word love, you can put your hands on your heart. Let's practice! Say the word *love*, show the motion, and assist any kids who need help. **I think we're ready! Let's listen to God's big story!**

A follower of Jesus named Paul wrote letters to the Colossian people. Paul said that Christians should love (hands on heart) **and obey God. He said we should live a new life for Jesus when He is our Savior. God forgives the wrong things we do.**

Paul also told the followers of Jesus that they are God's chosen people. He told them they were loved (hands on heart). **He said we should put on kindness and love** (hands on heart) **as if they were our clothes. Instead of choosing to do things our own way, followers of Jesus should live like Jesus.**

Because God forgives us, we must forgive others and live at peace with others. When we trust in Jesus, God helps us live in peace and love (hands on heart) **and forgive others.**

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for forgiving us and loving us. Thank You for helping us forgive and love others. We are grateful for Your gift of peace to us. Thank You, God. 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 love others as God loves you, forgive others as God forgives you, and live in the peace of Jesus today and all the days of your life.**

Activity: Sticky Note Love

SUPPLIES: sticky notes (1 per kid), writing utensil (prep only)

Ahead of time, draw a heart on each sticky note. You'll need one for each kid.

We are going to play a game! I'll give everyone a heart, and when I tell you to go, you will move around the room, stick the heart anywhere you want, and then say, "God helps us love!"

Repeat the game with more hearts as long as the kids are interested. Move around the room with the kids while saying, "God helps us love!"