

Love

LESSON 7

Galatians 5:22-23



New Testament 6
Part 2: Fruit of the Spirit

SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 4:7-21; 2 Peter 1:5-9

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: “[L]ove one another” (John 15:12b).

OLDER CHILDREN: “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- [“The Fruit of the Spirit”](#)
- [“Love is Something if You Give It Away”](#)
- [“Jesus Loves Me”](#)
- [“Love the Lord”](#)
- [“Fruit of the Spirit”](#)
- [“The Fruit of the Spirit”](#)
- [“I’ll Be Like Him”](#)
- [“The Fruit Song”](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP’s Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Paul & the Fruit of the Spirit](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “N.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- “Summary of the Bible” from [“Kids Prep”](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Pictures/drawings from the books listed under 3rd-4th Grader Pre-Class Activities/Learning Centers
- Pictures of different miracles performed by Jesus (times when He showed love unselfishly to others)



PERSONAL APPLICATION:

One way I can be like Jesus is to show love to others.

LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION:

Read Galatians 5:22-23 with the children. Over the next few lessons, we will be learning about each of these fruits of the spirit. It is very important to God that we have these qualities.

When you hear the word “love” what do you think of? We talk about loving our pets, ice cream, sports, etc. What’s the difference between loving ice cream and loving your mom/dad/grandparents, etc.? What kinds of things do you do for people you love? The Bible tells us a lot about love. While Jesus lived on Earth, He did many things that showed His love for people. Let’s talk about some of the things He did.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. If you were an apple tree, what kind of fruit would you make? If you were a peach tree, what kind of fruit would you produce? If you were a sinful tree, what kind of fruit would you produce? [sinful/fleshly fruit] If you were a godly tree, what kind of fruit would you produce?
2. When we follow the Bible, we are following the directions of the Holy Spirit, being led by Him (Galatians 5:18; 1 Corinthians 2:10-13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Ephesians 6:17). Read Galatians 5:16. These verses means that if we live our lives allowing the Holy Spirit to direct us through the words of the Bible, we will not be worldly and sinful—we won’t be a sinful, worldly tree. Instead, we will be a godly, spiritual tree, and according to verses 22-23, we will bear certain spiritual fruits. The first fruit that tree will bear is love.
3. There are different kinds of love, and the Bible mentions some of them (e.g., *fileo* or brotherly love; *storgos* or family affection). By far, the kind of love that the New Testament talks about more than any of the others is *agape* love, which is mentioned over 300 times (while the others are only mentioned around 30 times in all).



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article “[God’s Love](#)” by Caleb Colley on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion about that characteristic in the nature of God.

4. It is this kind of love that Jesus said we should have in Matthew 22:36-40. (Read the passage with the children.) According to this passage, all of God’s Law can be boiled down to showing *agape* love towards God and towards each other. If we could show this kind of love at all times, we would never sin! James called showing *agape* love the “royal law” (James 2:8).
5. What is this kind of love? The world around us portrays love as strictly an emotion or a feeling—an emotion that can sometimes lead people to make bad choices (to do wrong actions). This worldly defined “love” is very different than what the Bible describes as *agape* love, very different from the love that Jesus showed, and very different than the love that God expects us to show to others every day. The Bible describes *agape* love as an action (something we **do**)—not a feeling. Read 1 John 3:17-18; James 2:15-16; Matthew 25:34-40.

6. The fact that *agape* love is an attitude and an action rather than a feeling explains why we can even show love to our enemies, as Jesus commanded (read Matthew 5:44).
7. More specifically, this love that we are to have means to be unselfish towards others. It means to think about the good of others and be willing to act on that love for their benefit, no matter what it costs us. It means to have a giving attitude, rather than a taking attitude. Love includes unselfishly giving of our time and possessions.
8. The opposite of having love is to be selfish, thinking about yourself. Whereas God loved us by **giving** us Jesus Who died for us (John 3:16), being selfish and self-seeking is described as “demonic” (James 3:14-15). God is love (1 John 4:7-8), but Satan is the opposite. He is a taker who does not think about the well-being of others.
9. What are some of the ways that Jesus showed love to others? He fed the hungry (the 5,000 and then the 4,000), healed the sick and disabled (Jairus’ daughter; the blind and lame), raised the dead (Lazarus), gave a kind word or gentle touch (the lepers), etc. Most important: He taught people the truth.
10. The most powerful way that Jesus showed His love was by dying for us (John 15:13). Jesus gave love to others no matter who they were, how they looked, or how they treated Him. Jesus wants us to show love to others like He did. We can do that with God’s help through prayer and Bible study.
11. With OLDER CHILDREN discuss: Is it possible to love God and **not** show love to others (1 John 4:7-8,19-21)? Is it possible to love God and not obey Him (John 14:15)?
12. Use 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 (with visuals and/or Scripture reading) to describe and discuss the love that Jesus had—and the love that we must have if we want to be like Him. Talk about how each of the things that describe *agape* love in those verses have to do with being unselfish.



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article “**Love is not Jealous, so Why is God?**” by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for a response to an accusation often made against the nature of God.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#)

Ages 2-5:

- Give each child a piece of construction paper with a heart drawn on it. Write the word “love” on the heart. Let the children follow the outline of the word on the heart by gluing macaroni or white beans on the heart. (“[Love Outline Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- Copy the memory verse onto a heart shaped piece of card stock (one per child). Cut it into puzzle pieces. Let the children put their puzzles together. (“[Memory Verse Heart Puzzle](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- Copy the memory verse onto pieces of construction paper/card stock (one per child). Beneath the memory verse write, “I will show love by...” Let the children decorate it with heart stickers, stamps, etc. and tell you what to write on their cards to take home. (“[I will show love by... Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- “[Love Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)

1st-2nd Graders:

- “[1 Corinthians 13 Word Search](#)” (provided in activity sheets).
- “Love” activity sheet: Type out 1 Corinthians 13, leaving blanks for key words. Let the children work individually, in pairs/groups, or copy the worksheet onto a Power Point slide, project it onto the board, and fill in the blanks as a class. (“[1 Corinthians 13 Fill in the Blank Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- Brainstorm: Draw a large heart shape on the board. Have children brainstorm ways to show love to others, writing them down inside the heart shape. Then give every child a large construction paper/card stock heart. Have them write down ways they will show love to others during the week. Tell them to take home their papers and put them in a place they will see every day. (“[Brainstorm Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- “[Memory Verse Heart Puzzle](#)” (provided in activity sheets).

3rd-4th Graders:

- “[1 Corinthians 13 Word Search](#)” (provided in activity sheets).
- “Love” activity sheet: Type out 1 Corinthians 13, leaving blanks for key words. Let the children work individually, in pairs/groups, or copy the worksheet onto a transparency and fill in the blanks as a class. (“[1 Corinthians 13 Fill in the Blank Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- Brainstorm: Draw a large heart shape on the board. Have children brainstorm ways to show love to others, writing them down inside the heart shape. (“[Brainstorm Activity](#)” provided in activity sheets)
- Scripture Race: Give the students a list of six to eight other scriptures to look up within a certain time period. The first student (or pair) to find all the passages first wins.
- “[Memory Verse Heart Puzzle](#)” (provided in activity sheets).
- Have the children read the following:
 - Galatians 5; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 4
 - *Discovery* magazine articles: “Brotherly Love,” [December, 2009](#); “Love Your Enemies as Yourself,” [July, 2010](#)
 - Story books dealing with showing love to others/doing kind things for others

SONGS:

“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT”

Author: Jeff Miller

(Tune: See “[Kids Prep](#)” CD)

Get the fruit of the Spirit,
It’s love, joy, peace, long-suffering;
Kindness, goodness, and faithfulness,
Gentleness, and self-control.

“LOVE IS SOMETHING IF YOU GIVE IT AWAY” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: See Internet)

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away; you end up getting more.

Love is like a lucky penny,
Hold it tight and you won't have any.
Give it away, and you'll have plenty.
You'll end up having more.

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away; you end up getting more.

“JESUS LOVES ME” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Anna B. Warner

Jesus loves me this I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak but He is strong.

CHORUS:

Yes Jesus loves me.
Yes Jesus loves me.
Yes Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus love me when I'm good.
When I do the things I should.
Jesus loves me when I'm bad,
Though it make Him very sad.

(CHORUS)

“LOVE THE LORD” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*
(Tune: “Mary Had a Little Lamb”)

You shall love the Lord your God,
With all your heart, with all your soul.
You shall love the Lord your God,
With all of your mind, too.

This is Matthew 22, 22, 22.
This is Matthew 22, and verse 37.

“FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “Qué Será, Será”)

When you become a child of God, fruits of the Spirit, you must show.
They are not apples, grapefruits, or plums—just sing and you will know.

Love and joy and peace,
You must from the heart give these.
Show patience and gentleness, and show goodness, please.

When you become a child of God, fruits of the Spirit, you must show.
They are not apples, grapefruits, or plums—just sing and you will know.

Wear the shield of faith,
Show meekness and self-control.
When you are a child of God, you will practice these.

“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: See Internet)

(Have pictures of the fruits mentioned below to use with the song.)

VERSE 1:

The fruit of the Spirit is a cantaloupe. NOPE!
The fruit of the Spirit is a cantaloupe. NOPE!
If you want to be a cantaloupe,
You might as well hear it,
You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

CHORUS:

‘Cause the fruit is:

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control!
Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control!

VERSE 2:

The fruit of the Spirit is a kumquat. WHAT?
The fruit of the Spirit is a kumquat. WHAT?
If you want to be a kumquat,
You might as well hear it,
You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

(CHORUS)

VERSE 3:

The fruit of the Spirit is a watermelon. WHATCHA YELLING?
The fruit of the Spirit is a watermelon. WHATCHA YELLING?
If you want to be a watermelon,

You might as well hear it,
You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

(CHORUS)

“I’LL BE LIKE HIM” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “Jesus Loves Me”)

VERSE 1:

Love and joy to others show,
Every place that I may go.
Peace and patience, kindness, too;
Others see Christ’s life shine through.

CHORUS:

Yes, I’ll be like Him, (3X)
And I will praise His name.

VERSE 2:

Goodness show my friends today,
Helping others along the way.
Gentleness to those without,
Telling them what He’s about.

(CHORUS)

VERSE 3:

Faithfulness to do His will,
With God’s Word my heart to fill.
Self-control in everything,
Then in heaven praises sing.

(CHORUS)

“THE FRUIT SONG” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “Glory, Glory Hallelujah”)

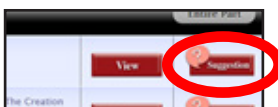
He’s a peach of a Savior; He’s the apple of my eye.
He’s the pruner of my branches, when my branches get too high.
He’s the stomper of my grapes of wrath, when life gets too tough.
That’s why I’m bananas for the Lord!

CHORUS:

He’s the vine and I’m the branches (3X)
That’s why I’m bananas for the Lord!

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



Love



Galatians 5:22-23



New Testament 6
Part 2: Fruit of the Spirit

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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OLDER CHILDREN: “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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- **Pictures of different miracles performed by Jesus (times when He showed love unselfishly to others)**

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

One way I can be like Jesus is to show love to others.

INTRODUCTION:

Review [N.T. 6 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “N.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

Review Sunday’s lesson. (see [N.T. 6 Review Questions](#) for example questions)

Remind the children that love like the Bible describes is not an emotion (the way that we feel), but is an action (something we do for others or for God because of what we believe). We can’t heal people or raise people from the dead like Jesus did when He showed love, but we can show love to our family, friends, strangers, etc. (by saying kind words, sending cards to encourage others, opening doors for someone, helping our parents around the house, telling others about Jesus, etc.).

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| ___ 1. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son... | A. Romans 8:39 |
| ___ 2. The most important commandment | B. Galatians 5:13 |
| ___ 3. Jesus said we are to love our enemies | C. Galatians 5:22-23 |
| ___ 4. Paul said that nothing can separate us from the love of God. | D. Ecclesiastes 5:10 |
| ___ 5. Jesus said others will know we are His disciples if we love one another. | E. Luke 6:27 |
| ___ 6. “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” | F. John 3:16 |
| ___ 7. Paul said we are to serve one another out of love. | G. 1 John 4:8 |
| ___ 8. “God is love.” | H. Matthew 22:36-38 |
| ___ 9. Solomon said that one who loves silver (material goods) will never be satisfied with what he possesses. | I. John 13:35 |

Answers: F; H; E; A; I; C; B; G; D

YOUNGER CHILDREN: Re-emphasize how we are to show love to others, briefly telling the story of Ruth and her great love for Naomi, then for Boaz and her son Obed **or** talk about the father's love for the prodigal son.

OLDER CHILDREN: Discuss Matthew 22:37-39. If we do **not** show love to others, we dishonor God and show that we do **not** love Him.

LOVE

Multiple Choice

Fill in the Blanks

Proverbs 17:17: "A _____ loves at all times."

Romans 8:28: "All things work together for _____ to those who _____
_____, to those who are the called according to His _____."

1 John 4:20: "If someone says, 'I _____,' and _____

his _____, he is a _____; for he who does not _____

his _____ whom he has seen, how can he _____

_____ Whom he has not seen?"

John 15:14: "You are my _____ if you _____ whatever I _____
you."

Answers: friend; good; love; God; purpose; love; God; hates; brother; liar; love; brother; love;
God; friends; do; command

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning's lesson

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