

To the Teacher

The information below is to help you in teaching the lesson. DO NOT read this page to the students. Instead, teach the information in your own words. Be sure to finish the student's lesson as well. The Scripture references in parentheses are for additional study, to round out the information given in the lesson. Become familiar with these passages as well, to provide additional Scriptures to your students.

Lesson 12 – God Shows His Love Part II (Teacher's Lesson)

Opening: Answer the opening questions. Explain that the gifts we value most are generally those gifts that have been given to us by someone very special. The greatest gift of all is salvation.

Romans 5:6-8

How did God show His love for us? In that Christ died for us.

For whom did Christ die? Sinners.

The main point of this passage is that Jesus was willing to die for the people who didn't love Him.

1 John 4:8-10

Who loved who first? God loved us first.

How was that love demonstrated? By sending His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The love of God for us is what inspires us to love Him, and others. God did not wait to demonstrate His love for us before He showed us His love. He loves us freely and unconditionally.

John 3:1-3

This famous passage shows the love of God for us in that He took the initiative to send His Son to be the bearer of our sin, to bring us to God (1 Peter 3:18).

Jesus said, to see the kingdom of God, one should _____

What does this mean to you? – Obviously the answers will vary, but the principal point of being born again is that we begin again, born to a new life and a restored relationship with the Father.

John 3:4-6

What is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Which type of birth is Jesus speaking of? A Spiritual Birth.

John 3:13-15

Each one who believes in Jesus can have eternal life.

How does Jesus compare to the serpent in the desert (read Numbers 21:4-9)? – In this passage in Numbers, God uses the serpent that Moses made as a demonstration of faith.

Logically, looking at a statue cannot cure anyone, however those who believe in the Word of God looked at the statue and were cured. In the same way, whoever looks to Jesus in faith that He will save them will be saved. Jesus also used a double meaning here, indicating the type of death with which He would glorify God. He would be lifted up on a post, just like the serpent, when He died on the cross.

John 3:16-17 – What was God’s motivation for sending His Son? Love

Summary: The love of God is demonstrated in many ways, but it is best demonstrated in His gift of salvation. (Jesus Christ)

Application: Help students to identify the person (or persons) for whom they have prayed to receive salvation. Pray with them that God will open an opportunity to share the Good News with these persons this week. Help them to see that they have a direct connection with the people who respond to the plan of God. People can only respond to what they have heard, so we have a responsibility and a privilege to go and announce the Good News.

Lesson 12 – God Shows His Love Part II

The Greatest Gift

What is the best gift you have ever received? Who was it from?

In the previous lesson, we spoke about how God demonstrated His love to humanity with the blessings of His creation. This week, we will talk about how God demonstrated His love for us with the blessing of salvation. Read the verses below and answer the questions.

Romans 5:6-8 – How did God demonstrate His love for us?

For whom did Christ die?

1 John 4:10 – Who loved whom first?

How was this love demonstrated?

In the third chapter of the book of John, perhaps the most famous verse in the Bible is found. In this chapter, Jesus speaks with Nicodemus – a Jewish religious leader) – about the greatest demonstration of the love of God. Read the following verses in this chapter and fill in the blanks below.

Verses 1-3 – Jesus said, to see the kingdom of God, one should _____
_____. What does this mean to you?

Verses 4-6 – What is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the _____ is _____.

Which type of birth is Jesus speaking of?

Verses 13-15 – Each one who _____ in Jesus can have eternal life.

How does Jesus compare to the serpent in the desert (read Numbers 21:4-9)?

Verses 16-17 – What was God’s motivation for sending His Son?

Some say that the most important words of verse 16 are “that whoever.” What they mean by that is that God doesn’t just offer the gift of salvation to a few. Whoever desires to receive the gift of eternal life can receive it – we only need to ask.

That is how God demonstrates His love to us, but how do we show our love to Him? In the upcoming lessons, we will study how God wants and longs for a personal relationship with each one of us. One of the ways we can show our love to God is helping others know Him. In Lesson 9, you wrote the name of a person for whom you were going to ask God to help you share His plan of salvation. Have you taken that opportunity? Read Romans 10:13-15 and answer the following.

Can someone call on God if they do not believe in Him?

Can someone believe in God if they have never heard of Him?

Can someone hear about God if no one tells him?

Can someone tell another about God if they never try to?

Obviously, the answers to all are “no”. If you are ready to demonstrate your love for God this week, pledge to Him your willingness to make at least an attempt to tell one person about Him. God will use your willingness for His glory and He will bless you.

Scripture to memorize:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3: 16