

Lesson Outline

Lesson:	"Love is Sweet"		
Life Point:	<i>In this lesson children will learn that true love is patient, kind, not jealous, not proud or rude. They will learn that love is hopeful and it endures forever.</i>		
Memory Verse:	1 John 4:7	Scripture Study:	1 Corinthians 13:4-7
	"Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God."		
The Way: (5 to 10 minutes)	The point of this activity is to present the salvation message in brief at each lesson.	Visual Aid: Large tri-fold board with pictures of the Gospel message - follow the pictures on the board to tell the children about God's plan to restore our relationship with Him. Invite children who are familiar with the pictures to describe the images to the class. Always have someone ready in the classroom to pray with a child who desires to accept Jesus as his Savior or to be available to pray for any needs a child may have.	
Reeling them in: (5 to 10 minutes)	<p>Visual Aid: hula Hoop.</p> <p>Good Morning Kids! - Do you know what this is? - this month we are learning about true love. The kind of <i>love</i> that God has for us, the kind of love He wants us to have for others and for ourselves. Now what does this hula Hoop have to do with God's love?! Well, let's see.. Mmm.. , there was something the hula hoop reminded me of about love... what was it?</p> <p>(act as if you can not remember) - Well may be if I use it, it will help me remember! (put the hula hoop around your waist and do your silly best at shaking it with your body.) - nope this is not ringing any bells.</p> <p>Does any of you want to help me remember? - great! (chose a child to bounce the hula hoop around their waist) - wow! That was great. But I still do not remember what the hula Hoop tells me about God's love. May be if I try something different! O.K - I need a volunteer to stand on the back of the room. (choose a child) - Now I will stand in the front of the room and do my best at rolling this hula hoop to you.</p> <p>Instruct the volunteer to roll the hula hoop back to you. After a couple of tries, jump up and say with a loud voice "I got it!!" - I remember! - (show the hula hoop to the class) - Who can tell me the shape of this hula hoop? (circle) Yes! Now who can tell me where a circle begins and where it ends? (a circle does not have an end neither does it have an end.)</p> <p>Like the circle of a hula hoop, God's love goes on forever. It does not have an end. You can not hide from his love. His love is patient and kind. Nothing you do can stop God from loving you. Because His love towards you is true, it never gives up, never loses faith and it is always hopeful.</p>		

Visual Aid: Prize bag. A bag of chocolates - enough for one per child.

Today our bible study comes from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Before you read the scripture: I need a volunteer who is really good at push ups. (Select a child) - I need you to do push ups in front of the class while I teach the lesson. Until I am done or until you can not do any more. Can you do this? Great!

Now I need the rest of the class to pay close attention to the scripture as I read. The one person to tell me the most characteristics of love from the scripture will win a prize. (In 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 there are a total of 15 characteristics of love.)

God's love is patient and kind: Some people see being patient as a weakness for not reacting quickly to a situation. But to be patient requires great strength. Think of how much it requires of you to not hurt your sibling when he or she says something mean or does something mean to you. It takes a lot of strength to not react with the same behavior. Love that comes from God helps us do this.

His love is patient and kind. God is patient for us to repent of our sins. God is kind by giving His one and only son as a sacrifice for our sins, even when we do not deserve it. This bag of chocolate reminds me of how sweet God's love is towards us.

Sometimes when a person hurts another they buy chocolates for the person they hurt. (show the bag of chocolates) Is their way of asking for forgiveness and their love. Others buy chocolates to show someone how special they are and how much that person is loved. People like chocolates because they are sweet. **This bag of chocolates reminds me of how sweet God's love is towards us.** (share a chocolate with each child)

God's love keeps no record of being wronged: God does not keep a record of our sins. He does not hold these sins against us. His word says that if our sins were as red as scarlet, God will make them white as snow. He also has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west. Are you able to forgive someone who has hurt you and never again bring up what they did wrong?

The love that comes from God can help us do this. **God's love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.** It may seem impossible that we can love the way God loves but it is not impossible. (share a testimony of your life) If you desire to love the way God loves, I invite you to say a prayer with me.

**The WORD:
(20 to 30
minutes)**

**Memory Verse
Song Link:**

*The Rizers- 1
John 4:7 (Let Us Love
One Another)*

<https://youtu.be/8ealledf2dl>

Closing Prayer:

(Make an invitation for those children who can identify with today's message to join the teacher up front)

Father God, you are absolutely captivating and your love does not ever end. I am reminded continually of how much you love me. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for me is sometimes hard to understand. I pray that I spend my whole life pursuing your love, in being embraced by your love and truly loving all those who you have set around me. Let me not miss an opportunity to show others your love for them and for me. In

Let me not miss an opportunity to show others your love for them and for me. In Jesus name, amen.

ADDITIONAL GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

BROKEN HEARTS GAME (from Children Ministry Deals)

Items needed: Ten construction paper hearts, all cut or torn in half.

Set up: Cut the hearts, mix up the pieces and spread out the broken hearts on the floor.

Instructions: There's nothing worse than a broken heart. The good thing is that what is impossible for men is possible for God, and Jesus is able to mend a broken heart and make it new. In this challenge your task is to mend ten broken hearts by finding the matching halves and putting them together. Complete this task in 60 seconds or less.

FOREVER LOVE (from Children Ministry Deals)

Items needed: Candy hearts and a vase. (note: the vase should have fairly thin neck)

Instructions: God's love is not temporary. He loves us the 12 months of the year, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. In this challenge, you will toss candy hearts into the vase. You must get a dozen(12) hearts to land inside the vase in 60 seconds or less or you will lose the challenge.

SORT ME OUT (from Children Ministry Deals)

Items needed: A large box of conversation hearts

Instructions: Jesus is the only one who can sort out all of our problems with love. Each box of conversation hearts has a number of messages. Sort the candies in your box by message in 60 seconds or less, and you win this challenge.

BLOWN AWAY BY LOVE (from Children Ministry Deals)

Items needed: Four Valentine greeting cards

Set up: Set the four greeting cards on the floor, standing them up like tents.

Instructions: Have you ever been blown away by God's love? In this challenge, two children get to blow away two greeting cards across the room until one gets a card to the other side of the room. The first to get a card across the room wins.