

Church @ The Ranch - SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

Pray for children, volunteers, lesson and classroom

Set up classroom and activities

Check the Sunday Task List

Welcome Kids

Worship and Praise

Review Sunday School Class Rules and Awesome Binder

Celebrate upcoming week birthdays and new visitors (birthday child and new visitor, may choose an item from the Prize bag)

Testimonies

Tithe and Offerings

The Redemption Story

Reeling them in

The Word

Closing Prayer

Lesson Review Activities (or Prize Wheel if it is the last Sunday of the month)

End of Class Transition Games

Notes:

Lesson Outline

Lesson:	"A Gift of Love"		
Life Point:	<i>In this lesson children will learn that human knowledge, wisdom and intelligence are partial and incomplete. The one thing that will last forever and is complete is God's Love.</i>		
Memory Verse:	1 John 4:7	Scripture Study:	1 Corinthians 13:8-10, 1 John 4:8
	"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 Redemption Story: (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)	Visual Aid: A bag of Tootsie Lollipops - (enough for 1 per child)		
	<p>Good Morning kids! - Before I tell you what we will be learning today, I need a volunteer who really likes candy! - <u>(choose a volunteer and have him or her stand in front of the class)</u> - Excellent! - Now, I am going to give you a tootsie lollipop. I need you to unwrap it and lick it until you get to the center of the lollipop or until I tell you to stop. You also have to count in your head the number of licks.</p> <p><u>You can not bite it, you can not put the whole lollipop inside your mouth, you can only lick it with your tongue.</u> Got it? - Go!</p> <p>While our friend works hard on his task, I want to ask you, how many licks you think it will take him to get to the center of the lollipop? (write the numbers on a white board) - Today we will be learning about a kind of gift that lasts forever. You can not break it, you can use it every day, it can not get dirty, it will never need to be fixed , it remains new every day, even after you go to heaven, the condition of this gift will be the same.</p> <p>Do you have any idea what this gift may be? (wait for answers) How much do you think a gift that lasts forever may cost? (wait for answers) - Well I can give you some clues: It is something that was not invented by humans and it is free for everyone.</p> <p>Let's check on our friend, 'how are you doing?' - You can stop now. How may licks did you take? (wait for answer) - Wow! Well according to Perdue University, it will take an average of 364 licks to get to the center of a Tootsie Lollipop!! - It is not 'forever' but it is certainly a long time! - <u>Hey! At the end of the today's lesson, everyone here today will take home a tootsie lollipop, so you can share today's message with your parents.</u></p>		

Visuals aid: Glass of water. Your Love activity.

Today our bible study comes from 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

(Choose three children to read verses 8-10 / after they are done, read the verses out loud.) - From these verses , who can tell me what will last forever? (love) - **Love is the gift I was referring to, the gift that will last forever.**

The words partial and incomplete mean limited, imperfect, unfinished. The gifts we receive from the Holy Spirit are good. We are to desire these gifts and to use these gifts to help others. But the gifts will not last forever, and when we join Jesus in heaven, the gifts will become useless. **We will no longer need the gifts because we will be with Jesus. His love is the only gift that lasts forever. He loves us now, and His love will be with us in Heaven also.**

Let me put it this way, To live our body needs water, right? - where do you think I got this glass of water? (wait for answers - water bottle, faucet, water hose..) In our home we drink water from water bottles. **But what if, there was a water fountain that once I drank from it, I would never be thirsty again?**

I would not need any more water bottles, right?! - The water from the fountain would last me forever. So why would I use more water bottles, when I do not need them any more? - **Jesus is our water fountain. From Him we receive our spiritual gifts, from Him doctors and judges receive wisdom, and scientists receive knowledge.**

But did you know that doctors, judges and scientist are always learning? Laws change, new medicines are invented, and new discoveries are made. But in Heaven, we will no longer need doctors, or judges or scientists! **Because, their knowledge and wisdom are imperfect. limited and unfinished!**

But in Heaven, we will no longer need doctors, or judges or scientists! Because ALL they know comes from GOD Himself! And we will be with GOD! -**The only thing that will remain from now, is God's Love for us - His love is eternal - which means it will last forever. That is why, it is so important to understand God's Love. Love is above all the Spiritual Gifts, knowledge and wisdom.**

God's love lasts forever, is greater than any gift and more powerful than any weapon. God's love has no limits, you can not hide from it, and you can never not do anything so terribly bad that will stop God from loving you. (there will be consequences for your actions but God still loves you) - Pray 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, I am reminded continually of how much you love me. The sacrifice of love, Jesus dying on the cross for me, is sometimes hard to understand. I pray that I spend my whole life after your love, understanding your love and truly loving all those who you have set around me. In Jesus name amen.

ADDITIONAL GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

(from Children's Ministry Deals)

BROKEN HEARTS GAME

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

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

Set up: Set up the vase in the middle of the room, about six feet away from the child.

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

Items needed: Two candy boxes of conversation hearts. Wax or baking paper.

Set up: Cut two (12 inches long) pieces of wax/baking paper. Place them on the floor. Place a box of conversation hearts on each paper.

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

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 child gets a card to the other side of the room. The first to get a card across the room wins.

~YOUR LOVE~

1 John 4:8 says that God is Love. What will happen if you change the terms for GOD with the words Your Love in a Psalm? - Find out! - In the empty spaces below write the words Your Love. Now read it out loud. Keep this paper where you can read it daily.

PSALM 139:7-12 (NLT)

*I can never escape from _____!
I can never get away from _____!
If I go up to heaven, _____ is there;
if I go down to the grave, _____ is there.
If I ride the wings of the morning,
if I live by the farthest oceans,
even there _____ will guide me,
and _____ will support me.
I could ask the darkness to hide me
and the light around me to become night—
but even in darkness I cannot hide from _____.
In _____ the night shines as bright as day.
Darkness and light are the same in _____.*