

★ Biblical Love

Fellowship with the Father

Lesson 10

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: I John

Study Guide: Read "Biblical Love: Fellowship with the Father" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: Tragedy is the result when the things of this world, such as drink, drugs, and ungodly music, are used as substitutes for the love and fellowship of God. Tragedy can be transformed into triumph through knowing God and His saving love and power.

Lesson Application: I will not be deceived by the world. I will accept the love of my Heavenly Father. I will love God and other Christians.

Memory Verse: I John 4:11



"THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MINE HEART..."

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

—I John 4:11

The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Daisy

Teacher Tips

Never stop learning!
Always be looking for new ideas.

The Teacher's Lesson Plan

Materials: Daisy

You could also use any other flower that has petals.

What You Could Say:

Everyone has decisions to make. Some decisions are simple such as choosing whether to pray and read the Bible each day or to obey your mother when she reminds you to make your bed. You do not really have to think about what you should do; these kinds of decisions are easy. Some decisions are not as simple, such as deciding which group of girls or boys should be your friends or choosing which college to attend after high school. These kinds of decisions require planning, prayer, and even help from your mother and father.

One of the strangest ways that young people make decisions involves this daisy. You probably know how the daisy is used. Let us pretend that a young man admires a young lady in the church but does not know if she has the same feelings toward him. How does he determine, or decide, if she likes him or not? He picks a daisy and plucks the petals, alternating between "she doesn't" and "she does." Isn't that funny? Using daisies, playing paper-rock-scissors, and flipping coins are creative ways to make decisions; but you should only use them for making unimportant decisions like who receives the bigger piece of pie or who has to vacuum the living room.

Did you know that some people have trouble figuring out, or deciding, if God loves them or not? Perhaps they look at the bad or sad things that have happened or are happening to them and cannot decide if the Lord even cares about them. Just like the young man who plucks the daisy petals, these confused people are using the wrong factors to make their decision. In today's lesson, we will use the Bible—not daisies or games—to decide if God really loves everyone.

Teacher's Notes

They know
enough who
know how to
learn.

—Henry Adams

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1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 10

Do you think it would be fun to be rich and famous? Would you like to have everything you could possibly want? Would you like everyone to know who you are and how important you are? Most people who are rich and famous think money can make them happy. They buy expensive homes and cars or anything else they want. They throw big parties for their friends. They think this can buy the love of their friends. It is sad that people who are rich and famous are not happy. Having expensive homes and clothes and other possessions can never make people happy. When their money is gone, so are most of their friends. Money cannot buy love. Some rich and famous people become so unhappy that they don't want to live any longer.

Only a person who knows Jesus can be a really happy person, whether he is rich or poor. Only God can make a person truly happy. That's because God is love (I John 4:16). The material goods of this world will never make us happy.

Love of the World

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

—I John 2:15-16

There is nothing wrong with enjoying nice toys and clothes or a nice house or car. God often blesses us with these items. But they should not be too important to us. Robbers can steal them. They can break. They can become old and out of date. A person who thinks possessions of this world will make him happy is always disappointed.

Do you remember the story of the prodigal son in the Bible? When he had money, he had lots of friends. He threw parties for them. He had clothes and other possessions that he loved. But when he was out of money, his friends left him. They didn't even give him food to eat or a place to stay.

Don't let the devil trick you. Loving what belongs to this world will never make you happy. Instead, it will always disappoint you.

Love of the Father

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.

—I John 3:1

On the other hand, God is love. He shows His love to us in many ways:

1. God's love gives us salvation (John 3:16).
2. God's love makes us His children (I John 3:1).
3. God's love gives us hope of heaven and helps us be pure (I John 3:3).
4. God's love gives us boldness (I John 4:17).
5. God's love takes away fear (I John 4:18).

Love for the Brethren

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

—I John 3:10-11

God tells us in this verse that we must love all of His children. Some people are easy to love. Others are not. But this is a command from God. To love others means to “meet their needs.” God loves everyone, even people we don't think we can love. I John 4:19 says, “We love him, because he first loved us.” If He loves us, He can help us love others.

The next time you get a toy that you just “love,” remember that it will not last. Nothing of this world will last forever. And remember, “Love not the world neither the things in the world” (I John 4:15). And remember His command to love others (I John 4:11).

God talks a lot about love in the book of I John. Out of 105 verses, 23 of them talk about love. This is because God is love (I John 4:19).

Teacher's Notes
