

Lesson 2.4 Loving Your Enemies

Age Group: 7-9

Goals

- Teach children that love is a command from God.
 - Help children understand who their real enemy is.
 - Show children how to love the unlovable and respond with love to those who hate them.
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Welcome Time

- Greet students warmly as they arrive.
 - Provide an “Enemy to Friend” activity sheet: draw or write about a time they were kind to someone who wasn’t kind to them.
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Worship Time

- Sing worship songs, such as:
 - "Love One Another"
 - "This Little Light of Mine."
 - Offer a prayer of thanks for God’s love and ask for help in loving others, even those who may not be kind.
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Lesson

Introduction

Summary for Parents:

We introduced love as a command from God, especially the challenging call to love our enemies. Students learned that Satan is our real enemy and that loving those who may dislike or hurt us reflects God’s love for us. We emphasized that love is not just a feeling but a choice and an action that can overcome hatred.

- We discussed how love connects us as humans, even in a divided world.
 - Loving our enemies defeats hatred and reflects God's character.
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Opening Activities

1. Enemy or Friend?

- Display pictures of various scenarios (e.g., a child sharing, a child teasing).
- Ask students to sort the scenarios into "Friend" or "Enemy" categories.

2. Heart Toss:

- Use a bean bag shaped like a heart.
 - Each time a student catches the heart, they must name one way to show love, even to someone mean.
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Memory Verse

1 PETER 3:8-9

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

1 Peter 3:8-9 (ICB)

- Practice reciting the verse together with hand motions:
 - "Live together in peace" (make peace sign).
 - "Love each other as brothers" (hug self).
 - "Do not do wrong to a person" (shake head no).
 - "But ask God to bless that person" (fold hands in prayer).
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Bible Story

Luke 6:27-36

- Read the passage aloud.
- Summarize Jesus' teaching:

- Love your enemies.
 - Do good to those who hate you.
 - Pray for those who mistreat you.
 - Discuss examples of how Jesus showed love to those who opposed Him.
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Discussion Questions

1. Who is our real enemy?
 2. Why do we have hatred in the world?
 3. Have you ever had someone dislike or mistreat you? How did you respond?
 4. What can you do to love someone who is mean to you?
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Gospel Point

- We were God's enemies because of our sin, but He loved us so much that He sent Jesus to save us.
 - When we choose to love our enemies, we reflect God's love and show that Jesus lives in us.
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Activity (Visual Aids)

1. **Love vs. Hate Chart:**
 - Create a chart on the board with two columns: "Love" and "Hate."
 - Have students suggest actions for each column.
 - Discuss how loving actions can overcome hateful ones.
 2. **Enemy to Friend Role-Play:**
 - Pair students and give them scenarios (e.g., being teased, someone cutting in line).
 - One student acts as the "enemy," and the other shows how to respond with love.
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Craft

Love Your Enemies Heart Collage

- Materials: Construction paper hearts, markers, glue, magazines for pictures.

- Have students write or draw ways they can love their enemies on the hearts.
 - Glue the hearts onto a large poster board to create a “Heart of Love” collage to display in class.
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Conclusion

We concluded that the true test of love is loving our enemies. Students learned that love is not just about being kind to friends but also about showing compassion to those who may not treat them well.

- Students were reminded that God loved us even when we were His enemies and that His love gives us the strength to love others.
 - We encouraged them to reflect God’s love in their words and actions.
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Closing Prayer: [Click Here](#)

- Lead a prayer asking God for the courage and strength to love others, even when it’s hard.
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Snack Time

- Serve heart-shaped cookies or fruit snacks as a reminder of God’s love.
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Take-Home Summary: [click Here](#)

Activity

Craft Time: Kindness Flowers

1. Cut out paper petals
2. Write kind actions on petals
3. Assemble into a flower



https://youtu.be/rP0nD5fV-Zc?si=zmkLef-W_3uoWWxR