



GLOSSARY

ASK: Ask a question that will help them to think about how this information makes a difference in the life.

SHARE: Talk about your own experience as a disciple of Jesus.

EXPLAIN: This is a piece of information that will help to explain the topic.

What does God say about love?

'This is love - God gave His only Son Jesus for us.'
1 John 4

Chat

ASK:

I wonder what you think about when you think of the word 'love'.

SHARE:

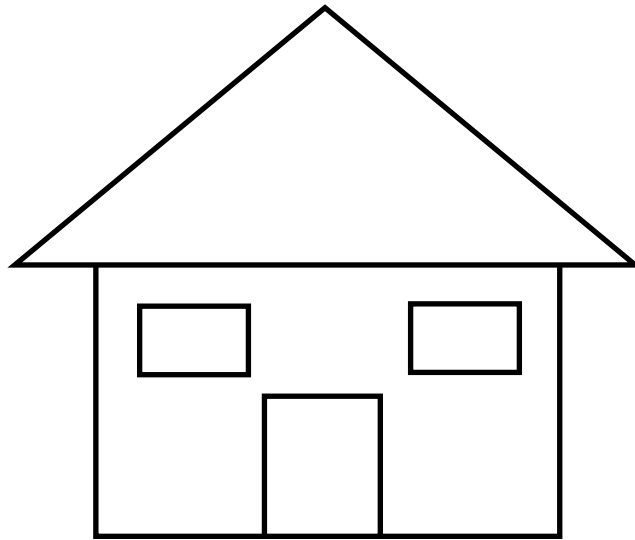
Share any other words that 'love' might be talked about. (For example, really enjoying something, caring deeply to someone, looking after someone, supporting a group like a team or a place.)

EXPLAIN:

The Bible tells us in 1 John 4 that God is love. Today we're going to chat about what God says about love. If God is love, He is a good person to listen to about what love looks like.

Activity

Provide your child with a piece of paper and some markers. Using the picture below (or another simple illustration that is appropriate for the skill of your child), describe step-by-step how to make the picture that you have in front of you (don't show them the picture yet).



Draw a rectangle. Draw a triangle just above the rectangle. Inside the rectangle draw three smaller rectangles.

When all the instructions have been given, ask them what they have drawn and share the original drawing with the child. Notice similarities and differences and point out a few things that you like about their drawing.

ASK: Is your drawing exactly the same as mine? How did you know how to make that drawing?

EXPLAIN We can listen to God about how to love. He describes it to us in the Bible in all sorts of ways. He tells us what love is like so we know what He is like. He also tells us how to love other people like He loves us. Love is not just something that we feel - it is something that we do. Let's play a game with some actions.

Activity

Action-Freeze. Call out an action and play some music. Child moves using that action and freezes when the music stops. Call out a new action and when the music starts again, child moves using the new action. (suggestions: stomp, twirl, march, crawl, roll, slide, bounce).

ASK: I wonder what you would do if we play one more round of 'Action-Freeze' and I call out 'love'? Is it easy? How could you 'do' love in your life?

SHARE: I can think of some ways I have loved (describe a few simple ways you have loved someone). I can think of other ways I have not loved too.

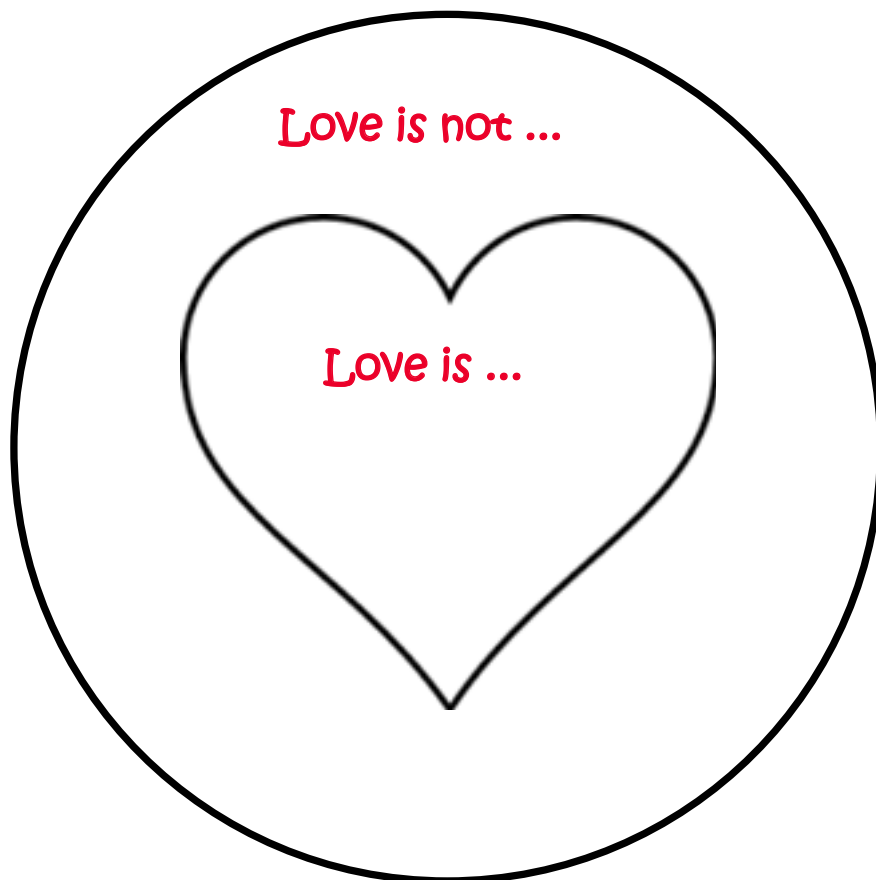
Activity

Let's play 'Love Target'.

Game set up: Prepare all the statements below on small pieces of card.

patient	wants what other have
kind	shows off
fair	thinks I'm better than others'
is happy about the truth	will not share
never give up on someone	rude
hopes others will do well	demanding its own way
keeps lying	cranky
looks out for others first	won't forgive or forget

Make a large target as illustrated and place all the cards upside-down, in and around the target. You could set the target up on a wall or on the floor.



Select something appropriate to use as missiles for your target e.g., bean bags, foil balls, nerf guns, water balloons (for outside) etc.

To play:

Aim missiles at the target to score points.

When a new card is hit, turn it over. Read it together and place it in the 'love is' section of the target or the 'love is not' section of the target.

If a card that has already been turned over and read is hit, the player still scores some points.

POINTS SUGGESTION

10 points = a new card that hasn't been turned over

5 points = a card that has been turned over in the 'love is' heart section

0 points = a card that has been turned in the 'love is not' section

ASK: When you look at this picture of love, can you think of some people that have showed you love? When do you think it might be hard to show love to someone?

Application

Sometimes it is easy to show love to someone. Sometimes it is hard. If we keep on practising love we will get better at it. And you know the best thing of all? God promises to forgive us when we get it wrong and He helps us to be more like Him - God is love!

Prayer

What would you like to talk to Jesus about?

What are you happy about?

Is there anything that is making you feel sad?

What can you thank Jesus for?

Is there anything you are sorry about?

Is there something you would like Jesus to help you with?

Who would you like to pray for?

Dear God, Thank you that you love us perfectly. Thank you that you loved us so much you sent Jesus to save us. Please forgive us for the times we have not loved. Help us to learn how to love like you. Amen.

Journal activity

Draw or write a way you can show love to others.

Little Chats - What does God Say About Love?

Journal

Draw or write a way you can show love to others.

Prayer

Draw some pictures or write words to answer these questions:

What would you like to talk to Jesus about?

What are you happy about?

Is there anything that is making you feel sad?

What can you thank Jesus for?

Is there anything you are sorry about?

Is there something you would like Jesus to help you with?

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