

Lesson 12

Jesus Teaches Us About Love/How to Live



Theme: Love—Showing love for God and others;
Faith—Choosing Jesus' Way

Works & Words activities related to this lesson }

Counting the Sheep, Works & Words, Book 1, page 24
Crazy Numbers, Works & Words, Book 2, page 24

Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Go for the Bible Facts!

Memory Verse: Give each student an opportunity to say the Memory Verse for the class. When each one completes it, the children may show their approval as directed by the teacher. Help students who struggle with the memory work be successful. Give guests an opportunity to say the Memory Verse. Finish the display described in Lesson 4 by printing the Memory Verse on a green circle and attaching it to the traffic light. Prepare a green circle for each student with his or her name and the Memory Verse citation ready to put on the display as shown on page 9 of this Guide.

Prayer

Teaching Today's Lesson

1. In the classroom Bibles, find and mark Matthew 18:12.
2. Move to Bible story area.
3. Have a student locate place on the time line and on a map (Capernaum) for today's lesson.
4. Ideas for telling the story:
 - Use the *Stop, Look, and Listen Lesson Graphics* showing the Rich Young Ruler.
 - Read Matthew 18:12-14, telling the parable of the lost sheep.
 - Have children fill in answers to questions on a marker board.
 - Use Finger People.
5. Major points of today's lesson, adjusting more or less for different age groups:
 - Jesus had great love for people. (John 15:13; Matthew 20:17-19)

- He teaches us to love people.
- A shepherd with 100 sheep had one of them get lost. He left the 99 and went to look for the lost one. He loved the little sheep this much. This is how Jesus loves us. We show love by caring for people who do not know Jesus. (Matthew 18:12-14)
- We show love by forgiving people who hurt us. (Matthew 18:21-22)
- Husbands and wives are to love each other (Matthew 19:3-6)
- We are to love Jesus with our whole hearts; we are to love Him more than anyone or anything else. Refer to the story of the rich young ruler (Matthew 19:16-22).

**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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Jesus Teaches Us About Love/How to Live

Theme: Love—Showing love for God and others;
Faith—Choosing Jesus' Way

**Works & Words
activities related
to this lesson** }

Rich Young Ruler, Works & Words, Book 1, page 25
Map Work, Works & Words, Book 2, page 25

Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Go for the Bible Facts!

Memory Verse: Repeat the Sunday Morning memory work activity for any students who were not present. Talk with all students about what the verse(s) tell us about God.

Prayer

Starter

Imagine you hear Jesus preach the Sermon on the Mount or you see Him heal a lame man. Jesus often amazed people by what He said and did. Would you think He was playing a trick or would you be amazed? When you walk home after hearing Jesus' sermon, what might you talk about with your friends? Jesus did mighty things and spoke powerful words, but He was not what many people expected Him to be. He was higher, greater, and better than people thought.

Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning

Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

1. **Objective:** Help student see the difference between loving money and loving God.

Using colored index cards or card stock, write words or phrases describing either spiritual valuables or physical possessions. For example:

- Take food to a sick person on Friday night
- Eat pizza with friends on Friday night
- Play with someone no one likes very well
- Invite someone over who has lots of toys and great clothes
- Make a list of what I want for Christmas

- Spend my allowance on a card for an older person
- Get a new toy
- Go to Disney World all day Sunday
- Ask Mom for a new outfit
- Tell Mom thank you for what she does for me
- Give one of my favorite toys away

Together as a class, have the students separate the cards into two stacks — one *Spiritual Valuables* and the other *Physical Possessions*. As they divide the cards, have students talk about why they think an item belongs in one stack or the other.

2. **Objective:** *To reinforce important lessons Jesus taught.*

Straighten out the scrambled cards. On separate card stock pages, write or print the following words and phrases: Children, Humble, Forgive, Many times 70 X 7, Marriage, Stay together for life, Follow God, Completely. Give each student a page. Instruct students to walk around to scramble the pages. Now unscramble the descriptions by each student finding the best match to themselves. Students line up when they find the match. Talk with the students about Jesus' great lessons.

3. **Objective:** *To illustrate Jesus' parable in Matthew 20:1-16 and help students learn about grace.*

Divide the students into four groups. Explain that each student has no money and is a worker who wants to work and make money. You, the teacher, are an employer. You have work that needs doing and you are willing to pay people to work. The work is cleaning your fields — mowing, baling hay, and plowing. The work will take about 12 hours to complete. Have some play money that you show to the workers as you make an agreement about their working for you. In the presence of all workers, come to the first group. It is 6 AM and you will pay them \$100 for the day's work. Get an agreement to these terms from the workers and send them off to work for 12 hours. For the second group it is 9 AM; repeat the process, explain that they will work for 9 hours and send them off to work. For the third group it is noon; repeat the process explaining that they will work 6 hours and send them off to work. For the fourth group it is 5 PM. Explain that they will work one hour and send them to work. The workday is now finished and you call the fourth group first, paying them \$100 each for their work. Pause to talk to workers in the other groups about what they think may happen at this point. Now call the third, second, and first groups and pay each of them \$100. Ask the first group workers how they feel. If necessary prompt them to feel they have been treated unfairly. Review the agreement you made with each group. Ask them if you did what they agreed on. You did not do wrong to the all-day workers. You showed grace toward the one-hour workers. The lesson to teach is that we are right with God, not because of how much or how good we do, but because God is gracious.

**Things to Get or Do
for Wednesday Night**

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