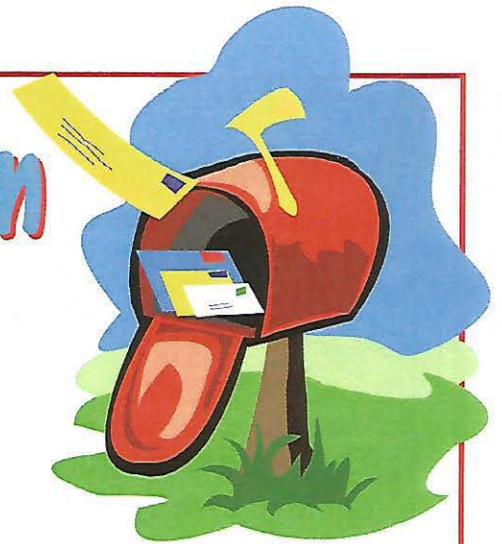


# Letters From Heaven



Lesson 12

## God Is Love

**Theme:** God—Perfect love

### Memory Verse

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith....”

Hebrews 12:1-2

### Daily Bible Readings

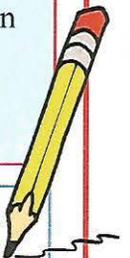
- 1 1 John 1
- 2 1 John 2:1-6, 9-11, 15-17, 24-25
- 3 1 John 3:1-3, 13-18
- 4 1 John 4:7-21
- 5 1 John 5:1-6, 11-15

**T**he apostle John loved Jesus and followed Him a long time. When Jesus lived on the earth, John heard Him speak and saw Him with His own eyes. He looked at Jesus and touched Him with his hands. We can't do this now, but we can read a letter from someone who did.

Read John's words carefully: “We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.” From what John writes in his letter, we can know Jesus, follow Him,

**After this lesson you should be able to ...**

- List three ways we show we love God.
- Give an example of loving one another.
- List two actions that are in the “light.”
- List two actions that are in “darkness.”

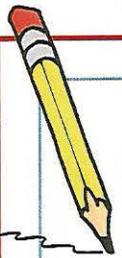


### 1 John 1

Describe three special ways John knew Jesus.

Match all the things that belong to either LIGHT or DARKNESS.

Good	—	LIGHT	False
Sin			Hate
Bad			God
Right			Love
Satan		DARKNESS	Wrong
True			Pure



### **1 John 2:1-6, 9-11, 15-17, 24-25**

*Use a dictionary and get a parent to help you with this one.*

Define “advocate” –

The world is all around us, but John says we must not love it. Why should we not love the world?

and be saved by Him. John writes about God the Father, the Spirit, and the Son. He writes about light and love.

### **Light**

Think about light. It is important to us, isn't it? What if we didn't have light? The world would be a dark and scary place. John writes that God is light. What does this mean? Light is what is good

and right. Darkness is what is bad and wrong. John says, “God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.” God always gives what is good and shows us the best way to live. He will never lead us in a wrong way. But each person must decide to walk in the light God shows.

Some people walk in darkness. They don't know God and do not try to obey God's Word. They think they do not sin or that sin is not a big deal. But they are wrong about this. John says we should walk in the light. This means we read the Bible and try to follow it. Sometimes we don't follow God's Word as we should, and we sin. Walking in the light means that we are sorry when we sin and ask God to forgive us. Also, walking in the light means that we love other Christians and always try to help them. Are you trying to walk in the light?

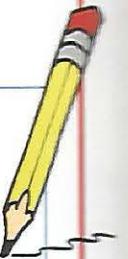
### **Love**

John also writes about love. Light and love go together. John says God is light and God is love. God loves us enough that He made it possible for us to be His children. God showed His great love by sending His own Son into the world so that sinners might be saved. Think about what this means. People didn't love God. They weren't living for Him or trying to obey His Word. But God loved people, and He loved them enough to give His only Son so people can be His people.

### **1 John 3:1-3, 13-18**

Because God loves us, He wants us to be a) in the world, b) His children, c) His priests.

Give an example of showing our love in actions.





### 1 John 4:7-21

What did God do to show His love for us?

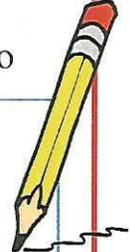
If we say we love God but we hate God's people, this makes us a) Christians, b) priests, c) liars.

We love because God first loved us. But what does this mean? John explains this as his letter.

- *Loving God means obeying His Word* — “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.”
- *Loving God means that we will not love the world* — “Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”
- *Loving God is actions not just words* — “Let us not love with word or tongue, but in deed and truth.”
- *Loving God means loving each other* — “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

John tells us that walking in light and love is the way to please God and to go to heaven. John warns that false teachers are in the world. They are against Jesus and do not want people to believe in Jesus.

People who believe in Jesus walk in light and love. Every person who walks this way will be saved from sin and will go to heaven.

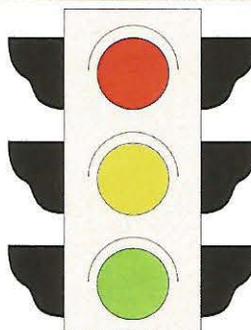


### 1 John 5:1-6, 11-15

If we really love God, what will we do about God's commandments?

The great life that God wants us to have is found in a) His Son, b) the world, c) false teaching.

I show my love by obeying.

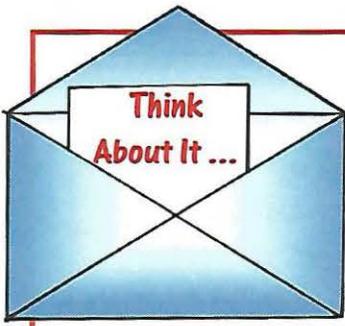


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

**Red** — almost never

**Yellow** — sometimes

**Green** — almost always



You are at a party with many of your friends and some of them are using bad words. Then they put in a video you know you shouldn't watch. If you decide to "walk in the light," what do you think you can do about this situation?

Right here, right now, write Galatians 5:22-23.



What is the book of Jude about?

On a map inside the back cover, place circles around the city of Damascus.