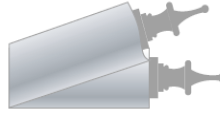




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

LESSON TITLE

Fruit of the Spirit – Love

TEACHER NOTES

45-minute lesson

UNIT 2 – Love, Kinship, Worship

To prepare for this lesson, study the scriptural references listed in **OBJECTIVES**.

GRADES 4 - 6

HOLY BIBLE

Galatians 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith...”

Q = Teacher asks question

THE BOOK OF MORMON

4 Nephi 1:15, “And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.”

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Describe how God wants to be loved. Examine these commandments and apply them to real life examples, Matthew 22:37-40, John 14:15,23

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How much love does God want? What is one way to show God that we love Him?
- What commandments does God want us to obey that pertains to Him? Can you explore the individual significance of loving with one's heart, and soul, might/mind?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and *The Book of Mormon*
Dry-erase board and odor-free marker

Task: Paper and pencils for students

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (5 - 10 minutes)

1. Engage students in a discussion about love, e.g., its meaning, how it feels to be loved, etc.
2. Ask students to give examples of how God loves, and write responses on the board. (Include: God showed great love by sending Jesus Christ to save mankind from eternal misery. Jesus gave His life in exchange for the souls of mankind.)

Goals: Describe how God wants to be loved. Examine these commandments and apply them to real life examples, Matthew 22:37-40, John 14:15,23.

Lesson Development (20-30 minutes)

(See Teacher's Supplement for guidance steps 1 & 3.)

1. Engage students in a discussion on scriptures pertaining to love, Matthew 22:37-39 and John 14:15,23, and Apply personally.
2. Discuss Essential Questions.
3. Task: Students draw a chart on a sheet of paper, like the one on the board, but tell them to not fill in responses. Students take the chart home and fill in the boxes with ways they show love this week.
4. Memory Verse: (Challenge students to memorize)
 - **Matthew 22:37-39**, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Key Words: love, kinship, worship, love to God, neighbor

Teacher's Supplement

Lesson Development

1. Examine scriptures on love and apply personally.

(As the lesson is taught, the teacher or students can take turns writing on the board.)

Discussion Points: The Bible informs that God is love, and love comes from God. It also informs that God wants to be loved by His creation, and He wants His creation to love one another.

Hand students a Bible. **Read aloud** from the Bible: **Matthew 22:37-39**: "Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**"

The First Commandment - Love to God

Discussion Points: All means 100% - everything, full, complete. The heart is where we feel emotions, and it drives our thoughts. The mind or our thoughts, drives our actions. The soul is the inside man or spirit that lives eternally. God wants us to love Him with our whole heart, with stable thoughts, with all of who we are, and for eternity.

Draw the following chart on the board and use to **Record** responses when introduced:

ALL MY:	HEART	MIND	SOUL
Love to God			
Love to Self			
Love to Others			

Q: Can you think of how you can love God with all your heart? With all your mind? With all your soul?

- **John 14:15, 23.** "If ye love me, **keep my commandments.**"
- "Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**"

Q: In your opinion, what does it mean to keep God's Commandments? Can you give examples of what it looks like in your life?

Q: How does keeping God's commandments involve your heart? Involve your mind? Involve your soul?

The Second Commandment: Love to Others

Q. What do you think it means to love your neighbor as yourself? (Give the same consideration to others that we would give to ourselves. Don't think we are better than someone else and therefore not treat him as well.)

Discussion Point: We should know how to love ourselves so that we will know how to love others.

How to Love Ourselves:

Write students' responses in the chart on the board.

Q. Can you think of examples of how to love yourself? How can you love your mind?

- Learn/read God's word.
- Pray
- Sing hymns.
- Think good thoughts.
- Don't listen to music with bad words and messages.
- Don't watch TV/movies with bad words and messages, e.g., swearing, saying God's name irreverently, or violence.
- Other_____

Q. Can you think of an example for how to love your body?

- Play safely.
- Eat healthy foods.
- Exercise.
- Good hygiene.
- Don't fight.
- Don't place yourself in harm's way.
- Other_____

Q. Can you think of an example for how to love your soul?

- Follow God's commandments.
- Pray to Jesus to protect you from evil.
- Ask to be forgiven when you do something wrong.
- Forgive those who offend you
- Other_____

How to Love Others:

Write students' responses to questions in the chart on the board.

Discussion Point: A neighbor can be a friend, someone who lives nearby, someone we just met, anybody.

Q: How can you love your neighbor as yourself? What would be a way to love a person's mind?

- Speak good thoughts.
- Tell them what you like about them.

- Encourage them to do their best.
- Be kind and friendly.
- Don't use bad language.
- Don't put them down.
- Other _____

Q. Can you think of a way to love a person's body?

- Be kind. Don't physically hurt them.
- Encourage them to treat themselves well.
- Feed the hungry.
- Clothe the poor.
- Help someone who is sick or injured.
- Other _____

Q. Can you think of how you can love a person's soul?

- Pray for them to learn about God.
- Invite them to church.
- Encourage them to do good.
- Teach them how to pray to God.
- Tell of God's love for them.
- Other _____