

Best Friends Forever

Ages 4 - Kindergarten
LESSON 1

Love Matters Most

Prepare in Advance

- *For the Object Lesson, make a laminated paper heart, or bring a heart-shaped pillow or toy*
- *Select and prepare songs for worship time, such as:*

“How Much Do I Love You?”

By Jana Alyra

From the *Jump Into the Light* CD and song book

<http://www.janaalayra.com/viewitem.aspx?i=39&c=3>

“All of My Life”

By Jana Alyra

From the *Jump Into the Light* CD and song book

<http://www.janaalayra.com/viewitem.aspx?i=39&c=3>



Countdown

Play the Countdown segment of the DVD.

Definition

Love is patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never selfish or rude, love does not demand its own way, is not irritable or short tempered. It does not hold grudges and won't notice when others do it wrong. It's never happy with unfairness but rejoices when truth wins.



Word of the Day

Play the Word of the Day segment of the DVD.

Object Lesson

I ♥ U

Hold up the laminated heart.

This heart represents how Jesus wants everyone to be kind and loving to all people. We are going to hear a story about Jesus' kind and loving ways.



Look in the Book

Play the Look in the Book segment of the DVD. You may reinforce the lesson with the following story, using the Drawings for Week 1 as illustrations.

The Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:35–40)

When Jesus started teaching, many of the people in the land believed Him and liked what He said, but some of the teachers of the rules didn't believe Jesus. People obeyed the teachers of the rules because they thought following the rules was the best way to please God. The teachers were very smart and they would ask Jesus hard questions to try and trick him with His words. Jesus knew what they were trying to do, but He didn't let himself fall for their tricks. One day one of the leaders asked Jesus, "What is the most important rule of them all?" These teachers loved their rules and they loved talking about them, even more than they loved helping people. Jesus answered him and said, "Love God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the most important thing. And the second is like the first: love people like you love yourself. When the people heard Jesus, they were amazed. Even the teachers of the rules couldn't believe how wise Jesus was.

Memory Verse

"If I do not have God's love, then I am only a noisy bell or a ringing cymbal."
1 Corinthians 13:1 (paraphrase)



Application

Play the Application segment of the DVD. You may reinforce the Application with the following teaching.

Application

How can we love like Jesus? It is not easy to do. Sometimes we get the words "like" and "love" confused. Love is a powerful word, but don't be like the teachers of the rules and treat it as just a word. Love is a feeling and an action. Yes, we must even love people who may not treat us nicely. Think about how much Jesus loves you even when you are acting unlovable. Just as your parents love you, they love you no matter what. Same with Jesus! He says that love matters most! God's love is the only thing that lasts. When you feel unloved or unlovable, picture Jesus in your mind. He loves you and He can turn your heart into a loving heart! Just ask! He is listening. Don't just say you love, prove you love!

Classroom Questions

- Question 1: What is our word of the day? **LOVE!**
- Question 2: What does LOVE mean? **Love is Kind.**
- Question 3: What did Jesus teach about love? **To love all other people no matter what!**
- Question 4: What did the other teachers say about Jesus? **That Jesus was very wise.**