

VALENTINE'S DAY LESSON FOR KIDS

Here is a quick lesson for K-5th graders on God's love, based on Luke 15. It includes a fun opening activity to setup the message.

It's a great lesson to use around Valentine's Day. Enjoy!

Nick Diliberto, Ministry to Youth – Kids

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OPENING ACTIVITY: GOD IS...

Give each small group of kids a large sheet of butcher paper with the phrase, "God is..." written at the top.

Instruct each group to think of words or phrases that describe the character of God and write them on the paper. Kids can also draw the characteristic of God.

Be sure to give the groups a few examples of God's attributes (peace, just, love, all-knowing, all-powerful) to get them headed in the right direction.

Allow time for groups to share some of their answers at the end of the activity.

TEACH - GOD'S LOVE

After the activity, say: God is so awesome.

Even with all these characteristics we just listed, He is still so much more! When I think about God, the characteristic that really stands out to me is "love." I think of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." I also think of 1 John 4:8, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Around Valentine's Day there is a lot of talk about love. God is our best example of the true definition of love.

1 John 4:8 reminds us that God does everything out of love. He provides for us because He loves us. He speaks to us because He loves us. God the Father loves us as His children, and He wants to be in a relationship with us. He will do anything to bring us into a relationship with Him.

In Luke 15, the Pharisees and those that opposed Jesus were asking why he spent his time with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus responds by telling them three stories. Listen to how Jesus responds to their questioning.

Read Luke 15 or tell all three of the stories in your own words. As you are telling the story have some volunteers come to the front and act out the story.

Each of these stories tells us why Jesus came to earth.

He came to give His life so that those who are lost can be found. God loves us so much that He is willing to do anything and everything for His children.

That includes sending His Son to die for them.

This Valentine's Day let's remember how much Jesus loves us. And if you've never accepted Jesus' love for yourself, come and talk to one the leaders in the room afterwards.

(Or if you feel more comfortable giving kids an opportunity to surrender their lives to Jesus at this point, go for it. Whatever works best for you.)

End lesson.

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