



# Lesson Seven

## Jesus Says, “Love One Another”

### Heart Preparation & Bible Background



#### Bible Truth

*God’s children show their love for him by loving others.*

#### Scripture

*1 John 3–4; John 13:34*



#### Lesson Focus

*Jesus tells us to show love for God by loving others.*

#### Goals for the Children

- Tell how God showed his love by sending Jesus.
- Name ways to show love to others.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help us show love in words and actions.



#### Memory Minute

*Love one another, for love comes from God.*

*1 John 4:7a*

Growing in God’s family means growing in love. In the Ten Commandments, God told his covenant people to love him wholeheartedly and to love their neighbors as themselves. In his teaching, Jesus emphasized the importance of these commands (Mt. 22:37–39), and he taught his disciples to “Love one another,” a command born out of his great love for them (John 13:34–35).

In his letter to believers, the apostle John wrote that because of God’s great love for us, he sent his Son to be our Savior. Now God calls us his children and tells us to show love for others in the family of God if we truly love him (1 John 4:7–11).

Loving others, though, is costly and hard. It is more than a card, a bunch of flowers or a simple “I love you.” It means sacrifice, putting others first and going the extra mile. It means considering the needs and feelings of one another and doing something about it.

Loving God’s way is only possible through the power of Christ in our lives. God showed his love by sending his Son. When we put our trust in Christ, our union with him gives us resources to deal with the selfishness in our hearts and to show his love to others.

Your young children are beginning to learn what it means to play in groups, share and cooperate. This is a wonderful time to teach them that God loves them and tells them to love other people. Teach them to trust God to help them be kind and helpful, to share and give of themselves, to obey his Word.

As you respond to your heavenly Father’s great love for you, may you model his love to your children. Show them how much you care for them, and teach them to love one another, just as they love God.