



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for April 11, 2010
Released on Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

"Love Binds Us Together"

Lesson Text: 1 John 2:9-11, 15-17

Background Scripture: 1 John 2:7-17

Memory Verse: "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him" (1 John 2:10)

1 John 2:9-11, 15-17

9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

.....

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that love binds us together as brothers and sisters - one family who believes in Jesus.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. If we hate our brothers and sisters, this shows we are living in darkness.
2. God wants us to love all those who believe in Jesus because we are one family.
3. God does not want us to love the things of this world. People are more important.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Helping to Remember, bring magazines with many kinds of pictures, safety scissors (blunt tip) for each student, glue sticks, a marker, and a piece of poster board.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Puzzle for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 90-95

Place: probably from Ephesus

Jesus' teaching ministry did not end when He returned to Heaven. The apostles continued Jesus' ministry, and His teachings lived on in theirs. This week's lesson is from one of the letters that the Apostle John wrote to stress the importance of love in the church.

Love and hate are contradictory, and hate is contradictory to the Christian faith. Love is an expression of the Christian faith in its fullness.

Some of us have our values misplaced. We are too in love with things of this world and not in love enough with our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Apostle John taught that it needs to be the other way around. We should love our brothers and sisters, but we should not set our hearts on the things of this world.

These are the priorities that reflect God's heart. These are the priorities that show our Christian faith.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Nancy did not like the other girls in her Sunday school class. She found something wrong with each of them. Susan talked too much. Jenny was too quiet and did not talk enough. Laticia liked sports, and Nancy did not. Caroline liked to put puzzles together, and Nancy thought that was boring.

Trina's clothes were very nice; so Nancy thought she might be stuck up. Sally's clothes were very plain; so Nancy made fun of them. There seemed to be something wrong with everyone. All these girls loved Jesus just as Nancy said she did, but Nancy did not love any of them.

Nancy thought more about things than she did about the other girls. Nancy liked fancy clothes. She liked to look at them in catalogs and in stores, and she liked to buy them with every dollar she could get. Nancy said one day, "Oh, I just love fancy clothes! I can hardly think about anything else."

What was wrong with Nancy?

TELLING THE LESSON:

The Bible talks about what we should love. John was one of Jesus' disciples. He wrote about what God thinks of Christians who say they are walking in the light of God but who hate people.

John wondered whether such people really could be true Christians. Those who loved their brothers were the ones who were living in the light. They would not cause others to sin.

We need to love others, but there are other things we should not love. John told us not to love the things that are in the world. If we love the things of this world, the love of God our Father is not in us. "World" here means all the wrong attitudes, wrong values and everything that is against God and His way of thinking and doing things.

The most beautiful things of this world will not last forever. Think about the things you love most. (Let the children name some things.) What is going to happen to them eventually? They are going to rust. They are going to get broken. They are going to wear out, or they are going to stop working. They are going to look old and junky someday.

There is something that is going to last forever, though. Even after they die, people are going to live somewhere forever. It is God's will that we show His love to people all around us.

God wants His people to stop loving things so much and to start loving His people more. He wants us to know that loving people is the most important thing.

People have many differences, but in God's family love is like glue because love is what makes us stick together. We love one another because God first loved us.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

It is not wrong to enjoy and appreciate the good things God gives you; but is there something that you love too much?

Is there someone in your life that you do not love enough? God can help you put your love in the right place. If you sincerely ask Him to, He can give you His love for all the people in your life.

We should love everyone but especially those who believe in Jesus. Those who believe in Jesus are our brothers and sisters in God's family. We have a special love for those who also love Jesus; it is easy to love our brothers and sisters when we remember how much God loved us - so much that He gave us His Son.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let one of the students draw a wide line down the center of the poster board. Let the students find, cut out, and glue pictures of all kinds of people on one side. Let them glue pictures of all kinds of things on the other.

Let one student write over the pictures of people with a marker the phrase "Love them." Let another write over the pictures of things "Do not love these."

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

**"He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him"
(1 John 2:10)**

John taught that we should love everyone who believes in Jesus. Those who believe in Jesus are our brothers and sisters in God's family. If we love those who believe in Jesus, we are living in a way that pleases God. We are not going to cause others to sin.

Love binds us together in the family of God. Loving God keeps us, and others away from sin. That is what is so great about love!

CONCLUSION:

The "glue" that binds us together as people of God is love. If a person loves God, he will love those around him. If he loves God, he will not love the world.

Love for one's brother or sister is much like using a flashlight. While the world around us may be dark, we will never stumble or get tripped up if we shine the love

of God on those around us. We must, however, make the decision to follow the path of God's love. God will always be there to help us – He has given us His Holy Spirit, who lives within us to help us love others the way God does!

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for loving us. Help us to love others and not the things of this world, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "Love One Another!" and tells how Jesus taught that the most important part of God's law is our love for God and that the second most important is our love for others. Study Matthew 5:17-10; 22:34-40.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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WORD PUZZLE

"Love Binds Us Together"

(1 John 2:9-11, 15-17)

This is a two-part puzzle. First, unscramble each word in the list and write the letters in the correct order in the blanks. Each word comes from a verse in the lesson text.

The letters next to the boxes are the clues to the second part of the puzzle. Unscramble these letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page to answer the question.

1. HTREOBR (v. 9) _____ □ _____

2. TGIHL (v. 10) _____ □ _____

3. MLBSUTGNI (v. 10) _____ □ _____

4. RDOLW (v. 15) _____ □ _____

5. TNIHSG (v. 15) _____ □ _____

6. IPERD (v. 16) _____ □ _____

7. AHFETR (v. 16) _____ □ _____

8. VOEL (v. 15) _____ □ _____

If you love your brothers and sisters, you are living in this? (two words, v. 10)

Solution to Word Puzzle
"Love Binds Us Together"
(1 John 2:9-11, 15-17)

1. BROTHER
2. LIGHT
3. STUMBLING
4. WORLD
5. THINGS
6. PRIDE
7. FATHER
8. LOVE

If you love your brothers and sisters, you are living in this?
THE LIGHT