



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for May 16, 2010
Released on Wednesday, May 12, 2010**

"Act in Love Together"

Lesson Text: Colossians 3:12-17

Background Scripture: Colossians 3:1-25

Memory Verse: "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering" (Colossians 3:12).

Colossians 3:12-17

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God wants believers to love and forgive one another.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God forgave all our sins when we believed in Jesus.
2. He wants believers to forgive one another because He forgave us.
3. He wants believers to be kind and loving to one another.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Helping to Remember, bring pink construction paper, heart patterns to trace, pencils, safety scissors (blunt tip), and markers or crayons for each student. Make a heart for them to copy that has the words "Love," "Be Kind," and "Forgive" on it.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student. This activity will use keywords from the lesson.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 60

Place: from Rome

In the New Testament, Paul reminds us that we are special. As Christians, we believe according to the Word of God that we are a chosen community. Because of that, we are obligated to walk as Jesus walked.

Paul taught the Colossians that charity, or love, is the "bond of perfectness" (Colossians 3:14). Only when we show love to one another will we be able to maintain unity. Only when we show love to one another will we be able to act in ways that reflect the holiness and perfection of the God we serve.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Angie said some unkind words and hurt her friend's feelings. When she realized how much her friend was hurt, she said she was sorry. "That is OK. I forgive you," her friend said.

Later Angie's brother accidentally stepped on a toy she had left out. The toy broke into many little pieces. Angie was angry at first. She began to yell at her brother. Then she remembered how her friend had forgiven her. "I guess I need to forgive you the way my friend forgave me," she said.

TELLING THE LESSON:

When Paul wrote his letter to the Colossians, he wrote that as God's people, we need to show one another mercy and kindness. We should not get angry with one another easily. We should be long-suffering.

Sometimes we hurt one another even when we do not intend to do so. We need to forgive one another. Instead of fighting one another, we need to forgive. After all, Jesus forgave all the wrong things we have done. He forgave us so much! Now we can forgive others. Maybe others have hurt us, but all of us hurt God by our sins. God's Son Jesus hurt terribly when He died for our sins; yet God forgave us. Surely when we remember that, we can forgive others too.

We need to love one another. Love will hold us together. Love will help us live in ways that please God.

Paul asked the believers in Colosse to let the peace of God rule in their hearts and to live in peace with other believers because we are one family. He asked them to be thankful.

All believers should learn the Word of God more and more. As they learn, they should teach and encourage one another. They should sing songs of God as a ministry to the Lord and to one another.

Whatever believers do, whether talking or doing something, everything should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, always thanking God our Father in heaven through Him.

It is hard to fight with someone in Jesus' name because we know that what we are doing does not please God, but it is easy to forgive in Jesus' name because we know that we are following what Jesus did and what He wants us to do. When we try to do everything in Jesus' name, it will be easy to tell what really pleases Him.

Think about how you have treated others the last few days. Ask yourself, "Have I been pleasing Jesus?"

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Has God forgiven all that you have done wrong? He has if you have trusted Jesus to be your Saviour. If you are not sure about that, I would be glad to explain to you more of what this means.

If Jesus has forgiven you, you are now able to forgive others who have hurt you. This is a way we show love for one another. This is a way that we live in peace.

Are you thinking right now of someone who upsets you or someone who has hurt you? Are you ready to forgive that person? When you forgive, you will have peace. You will have peace in your own heart first, and then you are likely to have peace with that other person too. That would please God very much.

God can help you forgive and show love and kindness if you sincerely ask for His help. Would you like to do that right now? (Allow a time of prayer.)

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Have the students trace and cut out hearts from construction paper. Then tell them to copy your words "Love," "Be Kind," and "Forgive" onto their hearts. As they work, encourage them to talk about what these words mean.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering" (Colossians 3:12).

Since we are God's people, there are some things we should put on. Just as we put on clothes and take those clothes with us wherever we go, so we should put these things on and take them with us.

God has loved us, so we should show love and kindness to one another. We should be humble and meek, seeing others as good and important as ourselves. Sometimes others are going to hurt us, even when they do not intend to do so. We need to be long-suffering and not become upset about every little thing. We need to be forgiving.

Love, kindness, long-suffering, forgiveness - these should be as close to us as the clothes we are wearing.

CONCLUSION:

The clothing we wear often reveals facts about us. When we put on our pajamas, it shows we are ready for bed. When we wear fine suits and dresses, it shows we are ready for a special occasion or a special activity.

The same is true for us as God's people – the things we put on (our conduct) shows what we are ready for. The well-dressed believer will be wearing the characteristics that show that he/she is part of God's community. We will demonstrate characteristics that show we are the people of God – mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for making us a part of Your family. Help us to be more like You every day. Help us to be kind and loving to one another, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "**Friends Help Each Other**" and teaches that as friends and believers, we can and should help one another. Study Philemon 1:1-25.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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WORD SEARCH

“Act in Love Together” (Colossians 3:12-17)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

MEEKNESS

CHARITY

FORGIVING

LOVING

PEACE

PATIENCE

HEARTS

HUMBLE

RULE

KINDNESS

DEED

THANKFUL

WORD

SONGS

MERCY

JESUS

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