

# LESSON 2

## I CAN HELP MY CHURCH

### OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the extent of God's love, and how to commit ourselves to loving God and our brethren, both in speech and in action
2. To learn to be faithful in attending church and RE classes.
3. To learn how to put our faith into action, first by praying for the church and its workers, and second by bearing the responsibilities of work in the church.

### MEMORY VERSE

"This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

(John 15:12)

### PRAYER

1. Thank you God for guiding us through the week so that we can gather together on this Sabbath day.
2. We thank You for our spiritual friends at church with whom we can worship You, and with whom we can grow together, spiritually.
3. We ask You to give us wisdom so that we can understand how to put our faith into action, by helping one another and by spreading Your love.



### Overview

#### 1. How We Can Help Our Church

- God's Love and Loving Our Brethren
- Attending Church and RE Classes
- Putting Our Faith into Action
  - o Pray for our church, its pastors, and its workers
  - o Help carry the workload of responsibility
  - o Live and conduct ourselves in a Christ-like manner

#### 2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Salvation is given by the grace of God through faith.

#### 3. Life Application

- Testimony: Helping One Another
- Love in Speech and Action

#### 4. Activity—Good Samaritan Desk



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

#### What "Church" Means for Us Today

A church is made up of its members, not the building itself. "Church" comes from a Greek word that means, "called out assembly." The Jews had been "called out" from the nations to be God's special people. Today, the church is made up of people who believe in Jesus and follow Him obediently. Most importantly, the church comprises people who were bought with the blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28). The Bible uses different imagery to help us understand what Jesus' church is like.

#### *The Church Is One Body*

The Bible describes the church in two ways. First, the church is one body. People who believe in Jesus are linked together, as parts of a body are linked together. Each person has a special job in the body, just like the arms, legs, and other parts of our body. When we view the church as a body, it helps us realize that each of us is important, and that each of us has a different way to serve God and other people.

#### *The Church Is One Family*

The second way the Bible describes Jesus' followers is by saying we're a family. Christians in the New Testament era called each other brothers and sisters. This was because they loved each other as such (1 Tim 5:1-2). The church, then, is made up of people who are family. We will not be alone if we take time to become friends with others in church. Even though we are not blood related, the blood of Jesus Christ has washed us all. We should love and support each other as a spiritual family.

*Pastors*

As part of the body of Christ, each of us has our own role as different “limbs.” One of these roles is that of a pastor who leads the church. One of Jesus' favorite metaphors for spiritual leaders was that of a shepherd—a person who tends God's flock. In fact, the definition of the word “pastor” is “to shepherd.” The flock that the pastor must shepherd refers to the church members. A shepherd must lead, feed, nurture, comfort, and protect the sheep. These are all responsibilities that a pastor—or a minister as we sometimes call them—must shoulder.



## Reaching Out to Your Students

James 2:14-24 speaks of faith being justified by actions. Since your students have been taught the importance of prayer and reading the Bible, this lesson might confuse them; they might wonder why it's not enough that they simply pray and read the Bible, or why, if these are ineffective, they should continue doing either of them at all.

Try to help your students understand that God loves when we pray and read the Bible, as these are methods for us to cultivate our faith and draw nearer to Him. However, we should also strive to love one another to show Him our faith, and also to let others see God's love in us.



## Opener

*5 Minutes*

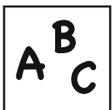
There was once a righteous man named Martin. Martin was a general in the army, and one night, he was heading off to battle with his fellow soldiers on his way to battle. Martin and his men rode on horses, and because it was in the dead of winter, they each had a heavy red blanket to keep them warm.

While they were on their way, they came across an old beggar dressed in rags and shivering in the freezing cold. One by one, the beggar approached each soldier with his hand outstretched, asking for help, and each of them laughed, and kicked him away and mocked him. Finally, he got to Martin. As the beggar came close, Martin drew his sword. The beggar was so afraid, thinking that Martin was about to kill him, but instead, Martin lifted up his red blanket and sliced it in half. He took the larger half of the blanket and draped it over the beggar's shivering body so that he could have some comfort from the severe cold. Martin rode away on his horse before the beggar even had time to say thank you.

That night, Martin had a dream. In his dream, he saw Jesus surrounded by angels in heaven, and Jesus had half of a red blanket draped over his shoulders. The angels asked Jesus, “Where did you get that cloak, my Lord?” Jesus smiled and answered, “This is the cloak that Martin gave to me today.”

This story teaches us that when you do something good for someone in need, you are not just doing something for them, you are doing something for God. When we show love to other people, we are showing love to God at the same time.

[Ask your students to each try to remember the last time somebody did something nice for them. As a teacher, start by volunteering your own story about the last time somebody did something kind for you when you needed help, and how that made you feel.]



## Vocabulary

**encourage:** to make someone more determined, hopeful, or confident

**flock:** the members of the church; Jesus is our Shepherd



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

In the previous lesson, we talked about what a church is. Let's refresh our memories on what we have learned.

### What is the church?

"Church" comes from a Greek word that means, "called out assembly." The Jews had been "called out" from the nations to be God's special people. The church is made up of people who believe in Jesus and follow Him obediently. Most importantly, the church comprises people who were obtained with the blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28). Last week, we learned two pieces of imagery to help us understand what Jesus' church is like. Do you remember what they are, and what they mean? [Allow students to answer if they can; answers are in the two paragraphs below.]

The Bible says that the church is a body. People who believe in Jesus are part of one body, and as such, each individual has their own roles to perform, just like an arm or a leg. This image helps us realize that each of us is an important member with an important role that God has prepared just for us.

The Bible also says we should treat our fellow members like brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers. Even though we are not blood-related, being washed by Jesus' blood makes us a family, and we ought to treat one another with love.

Last week, we also learned about some of the roles of a pastor. Can you name all of them? [Allow students to answer if they can.]

1. Evangelism
2. Administering the sacraments
3. Teaching and preaching
4. Shepherding God's sheep

### How We Can Help Our Church

This week, since we now know what kind of responsibilities our ministers have, we're going to learn what we can do, and how we can help our church. Before we begin, though, there are six important teachings that we need to understand.

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#### 1. God's Love and Loving Our Brethren

Let's open our Bibles to Luke 10:27 and read it together.

It's easy for someone to tell you to love God and to love your neighbor, but what does this involve? Let's first examine what Biblical love is.

#### FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 and work on it as a group.

Love enters into our everyday actions in a variety of ways. Many people give only when they can receive, as illustrated in the saying, "If you do your part, then I'll do mine." This conditional manner of giving is **not** love. God tells us that He loves us. Period. There are no conditions for receiving His love. It is this selfless giving and loving that God wants reflected in our own attitudes and actions.

By clothing ourselves in God's love, we also help to eliminate the elements of conflict and division, which often hinder the unity of the church. Ephesians 4:1-3 says, "I [...] beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

#### 2. Attending Church and RE Classes

Attending church and joining together with others in worship encourages the workers and pastors who have prayed and prepared all week to minister to you (Heb 10:24-25).

[Read the following scenario to the students and ask them to listen carefully.] "My parents worked so hard to provide for me throughout their lives. One incident I especially recall is when my mother spent her entire afternoon cooking something special for me for supper. However, preoccupied with something else, I didn't even bother to show up. This hurt my mother, to feel that her labor of love was not appreciated."

We may not realize this, but pastors often feel the same way when their flock doesn't show up. Pastors are always praying and fasting for the needs of the families in the church, such as those who are struggling with their faith. They often work late into the night to prepare teachings that can stir the souls of their sheep, only to find empty seats on Sabbath morning. This can discourage pastors from trying their best.

#### 3. Putting Our Faith into Action

Let's turn to James 2:14-24 and read it together. What does it mean when it says faith without works is dead?

Let's examine these verses more closely. Verses 15-16 asks us a question: If a brother or sister has no food and no clothing, do you think it's okay to just tell them, "It will be okay; I'll pray for you"? Prayer is important, but do you think that's all you should do, especially knowing that you have the ability to give them what they need?

James is telling us that our faith doesn't really matter until we put it into action. In this example, putting faith into action means that we should use the love of God to open our hearts to our brother or sister in need by providing them with what they need. How can we put our faith into action and help our church?

#### **A. Pray for our church, its pastors, and its workers**

*"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence." (1 Tim 2:1-2)*

Satan doesn't want the church to advance. Our church workers are always fighting spiritual battles and facing temptations and spiritual conflicts that could interfere with their church work. The devil knows that if he can get a pastor or worker discouraged enough to quit, it can have a domino effect on the rest of the church. You can be a tremendous help by praying fervently for your church and its workers. Paul explains in the Bible that it is the duty of Christians to pray for all who are in authority, especially those in spiritual authority.

#### **B. Help carry the workload of responsibility**

*"Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel." (1 Cor 14:12)*

Do you remember the story of Moses when Israel fought

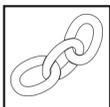
Amalek? When Moses held his staff high up, Israel began to win the battle, and when he lowered it, the Amalekites began to win. But Moses' arms became tired from holding the staff up for so long, that Aaron and Hur came to his side and supported his hands, one on each side, so that he could hold the staff until sunset (Ex 17:12). The arms of our church workers often become weary under the weight of so many responsibilities, so they need brothers and sisters, just like Aaron and Hur, to stand beside them to help distribute the load.

Now, you might ask, "But what can I possibly do? I'm just an E2 student!" Well, did you know that God distributes gifts to each within the body of Christ as it pleases Him? God never intended that the whole ministry of the church be carried solely on the pastor or a small group of people. Spiritual gifts are given to all of us so that the church can be edified and built up. But He doesn't just give us these gifts on a silver platter—we need to first discover them, then develop and utilize them under the guidance of our mentors. Are you good at singing? Writing? Maybe you are very detail-oriented or very good at organizing groups of people. Such things are gifts from God, tools for you to use so that you can glorify God and be a help to our church.

#### **C. Live and conduct ourselves in a Christ-like manner**

*"In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility." (Ti 2:7)*

A third thing we can do to put our faith into action and help our church is to set an example for others. A pastor loves to see his flock practicing what he has preached, and other members can learn from you if you set a good example. Truth-seekers, too, can be preached to in this manner without us ever having to say a single word to them!



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

#### **Salvation is given by the grace of God through faith.**

We know that in order to obtain salvation, we must have faith. And in order for our faith to be alive, we must put it into action by loving one another and spreading the love of God to those around us.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **Why isn't it enough to just have faith without doing any works?** Having faith in God is important, but it doesn't mean much if we don't put it into action. By showing our love to others, we are showing our faith to God and also allowing others to see God in us.
2. **How did the Israelites win the battle against the Amalekites?** Moses had to hold up his staff to bring the victory. Anytime he lowered it, the Amalekites would start winning.
3. **What did Aaron and Hur do, and what can we learn from their actions?** When Moses' arms started getting weary from holding up the staff, Aaron and Hur came to his side and helped him hold up his arms. We can learn that we must support our church workers and help them when they become weary from all the responsibilities and duties they hold.
4. **What are some things that God has done in our lives, and how can we repay Him?** Answers may vary. Suggested answer: God has given us so many graces. He gave us sunshine and rain; He protected us; He provided for us through our parents; He gave us all the good things to enjoy. We can repay Him by obeying His words and teachings in the Bible, and shining for Him at school and everywhere.
5. **What are some nice things we can do for other people, and for our brothers and sisters in church?** Follow the examples Jesus set; practice kindness; greet one another; help those who are weak; help those who are sick; clean and wipe the tables; keep our classroom clean; keep the church clean; etc.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### 1. Testimony: Helping One Another

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1. Read the testimony aloud, or ask the students to take turns reading. Then, Read the summaries and ask students to list out different ways they can do the following actions.]

#### How Can I Help Others?

*A. Look out for brothers and sisters in need.*

Think of the people you know at church that don't have many friends or that don't come to church very often, and make friends with them. Sometimes, it's as simple as saying "hi," or inviting them to eat lunch with you. God tells us that every one of His children is important, even the ones that are shy or going through hard times. By looking out for those who are lonely, or the ones that might need a friend, we are reminding them that they are important to God too, and that He loves them!

*B. Follow the example Jesus set.*

Because God gave us Jesus to look up to, we have the perfect example to follow! We can remember all of the things that Jesus did for the people while He was here on earth, and try to do those same things for other people. For example, Jesus spent time with many people and taught many things. He showed lots of love, and when someone needed Him, He would go to them. If we encounter a situation where we're not sure how we should act, we can simply ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do in this situation?"

*C. Practice small acts of kindness.*

From Mary's testimony, we learned that nice things we do don't have to be big or time-consuming. Even the simple, small things we do count! So if you're not used to serving others, or you don't know how to start helping others, just think of the little things you can do. For example, after someone is done eating, you can take their plate to the sink for them. Or, if you are about to get a glass of water, you can ask the people around you if anyone would like one as well. Or if you see some garbage on the ground, you can pick it up and throw it away. Any little thing you do means something to someone, and ultimately, it will help you grow accustomed to showing God's love by living a life filled with small acts of kindness.

**How Can I Share God's Word?***Be kind to everyone you meet.*

Chances are, if you are kind to others outside of church, they will know that you are a Christian. If you practice acts of kindness and look out for the people around you who are lonely or who don't have many friends, people will think to themselves, "wow, this person is so kind and helpful – I wonder how they learned to be that way?" Your own kindness can be the door through which other people learn about God. If we should godly love to people who have never even read the Bible before, wouldn't that be a wonderful way to introduce them to God?

**2. Love in Speech and Action**

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2 and go over it with the students. Answers have been provided below.]

**Colossians 4:6** "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." (Speak kindly at all times so you can help others with your words.)

**With the help of the Spirit, we can speak gracious and loving words. What can the right words do?**

Prov. 12:25: A good word can make a man's heart glad.

Prov. 15:23: A word spoken at the right time is good.

Prov. 16:24: Pleasant words are like honey, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.

Prov. 23:16: When you say the right thing, God will be happy.

Love is not merely a feeling, but an act of will. It can only be known by the actions it produces. What are some practical ways you can personally demonstrate love in action towards the following people? Discuss with each other, and then write down some ideas that you plan to try. [After students have completed this section, invite them to share their answers.]

**Activity****A Good Samaritan Desk***10-15 Minutes*

**Objective:** To help students understand the importance of helping others who are in need.

Do you personally know of anyone who is confined to bed because of a sickness? Have you ever checked with the pastors to see if anyone may be lonely? Here is an easy lap desk you can make to give someone some help and cheer!

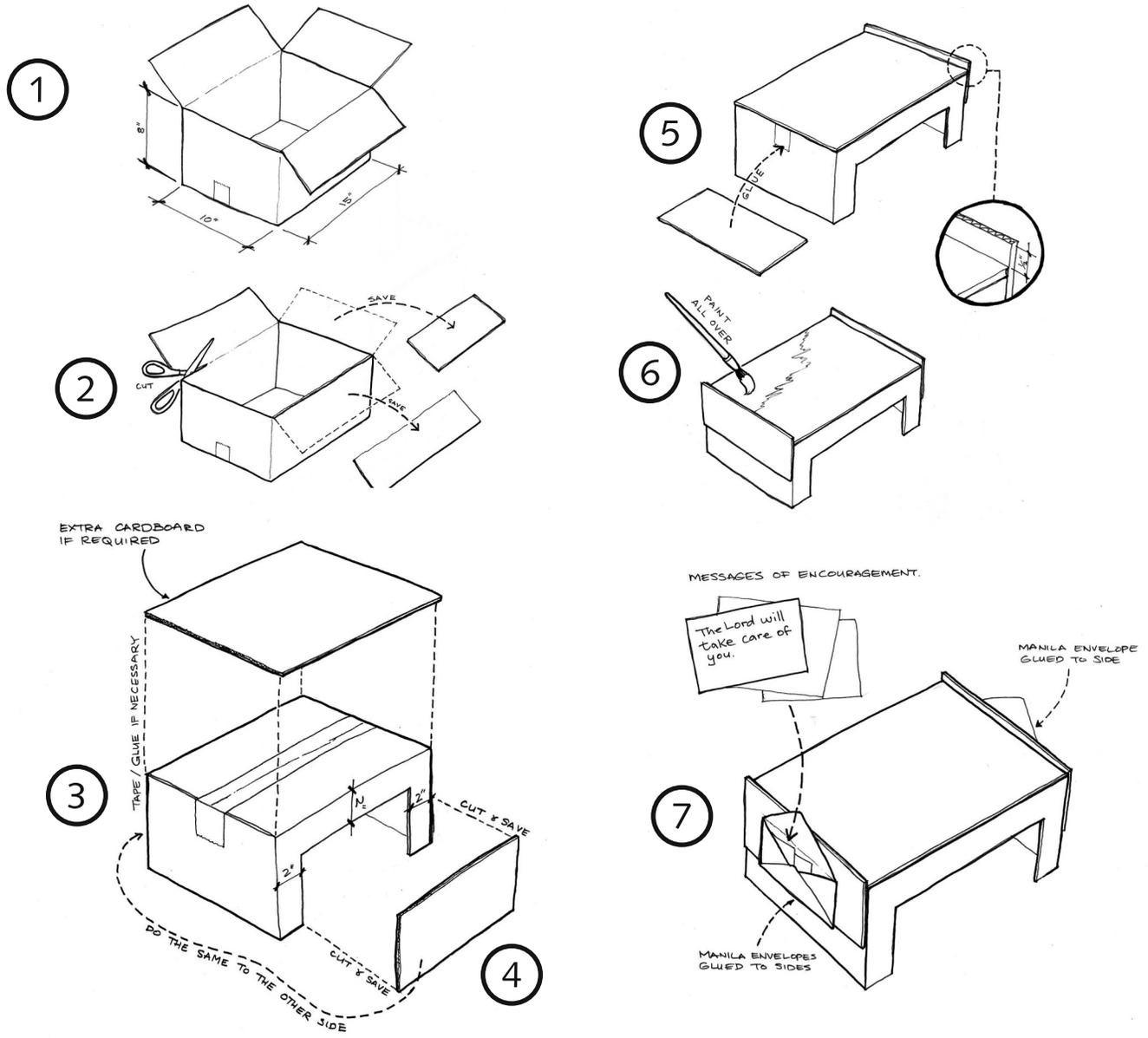
**Materials**

- Medium-sized cardboard box (at least 8" X 10" X 15")
- Piece of cardboard matching the width and length of the box (optional)
- Poster paint (alternately: spray paint or spare wall paint)
- Glue
- 2 manila envelopes per desk
- Scissors
- X-Acto knife (optional)
- Pencils

**Instructions**

1. Get a box big enough to fit over your lap.
2. Cut off the lids from the top of the box and save them.
3. Turn the box upside down. The bottom of the box will be the top of the desk, so if it has an opening, glue a piece of cardboard over the entire bottom on the outside. Optionally, you can glue an extra piece of cardboard to the top to reinforce the writing surface.
4. Cut a rectangle out of one of the long sides of the box, making sure to start from the bottom edge. It should be no closer than 2" to the corners or sides. Use the rectangle you cut out to trace and cut out another rectangle on the opposite side. [Teachers: You can choose to use an X-Acto knife, but use caution around students.]

5. Glue the lids of the box to the sides that have not been cut so they stick up ½-1" above the "top" of the table. This rim will keep pencils from rolling off.
6. Paint the whole desk.
7. Glue manila envelopes on the sides to hold paper.
8. Give the desk to someone and supply that person with encouraging Bible verses.



HOMWORK ANSWER KEY

1. "So he answered and said, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'"
2. James is telling us that our faith doesn't really matter until we put it into action. In this example, putting faith into action means that we should use the love of God to open our hearts to our brother or sister in need by providing them with what they need.
3. win, win
4. Aaron and Hur (Ex 17:12)
5. Look out for brothers and sisters in need; follow the example Jesus set; practice small acts of kindness; be kind to everyone I meet; share God's word.
6. C
7. He emphasized showing love so that people know that we are His disciples. Answers may vary.

## I CAN HELP MY CHURCH

Today, people have many different definitions of love. Most of these come from the illustrations of love found in television shows, movies, advertisements, magazines, and perhaps from personal experiences. However, not many people turn to the Scriptures, which also speak to us directly about love. It tells us what love is, and how we may demonstrate it.

### Discussion Questions

1. What is the world's concept of love? Consider movies or books that you have seen or read.
2. What do you think genuine love is?
3. How do the two loves differ? Read the paragraphs below, and then reconsider this question.

When we think about love as defined by the world, we often associate it with physical relationships, desires, or even simply having a strong liking for something.

The Bible, on the other hand, defines love differently. The original language of the New Testament, Greek, uses the word *agape*, which means God's love, or sacrificial love. *Agape* is love that is of and from God, whose very nature is love itself. The apostle John affirms this in 1 John 4:8, where he says that "God is love." God does not merely love us; He is love in and of itself.

Since God is love, everything God does is a result of this. But it is important to remember that God's love is not a sentimental love that we often see or hear portrayed. God loves us because that is His very nature and the expression of His being. God's love is displayed most clearly at the cross. Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." He did not give His life because we did anything to deserve it. This is *agape*.

### Love According to the Bible

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 gives us some of the characteristics of biblical love. Turn to the passage, read it, and then fill in the chart below.

WHAT LOVE IS	WHAT LOVE IS NOT
1. Patient	1. Envious
2. Kind	2. Proud
3. Rejoices in the truth	3. Rude
4. Bears all things	4. Self-serving
5. Believes all things	5. Rejoice in iniquity
6. Hopes all things	6. Provoked
7. Endures all things	7. Evil
8. Never fails	8.

Based on this passage, what are one or two major conclusions you can make about love?

**Next, turn to 1 John 4:8-21 and discuss the following questions.**

1. What important teaching about God did you read in v. 8?  
*God is love.*
2. What has God done to demonstrate His love for us?  
*He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to the world. He died for us and our sins so we could live.*
3. What should our response to God's love be? (vv. 11, 19)  
*We should love God and show love to one another.*

**Lastly, turn to John 13:34-35 and discuss the following questions.**

1. What is sure evidence that you are follower of Christ?  
*If you love others as Christ loved you.*
2. Why do you think Jesus placed such emphasis on demonstrating love?  
*Jesus emphasized love because God is love. God loves all of us so much. He sent His only Son to die for our sins so that we could spend eternal life with Him in the kingdom of heaven. Not only that, He showers us with so many blessings each day. He desires for us to show others the same kind of love that He has shown us.*

### I CAN HELP MY CHURCH

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WHAT LOVE IS

WHAT LOVE IS NOT

1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.

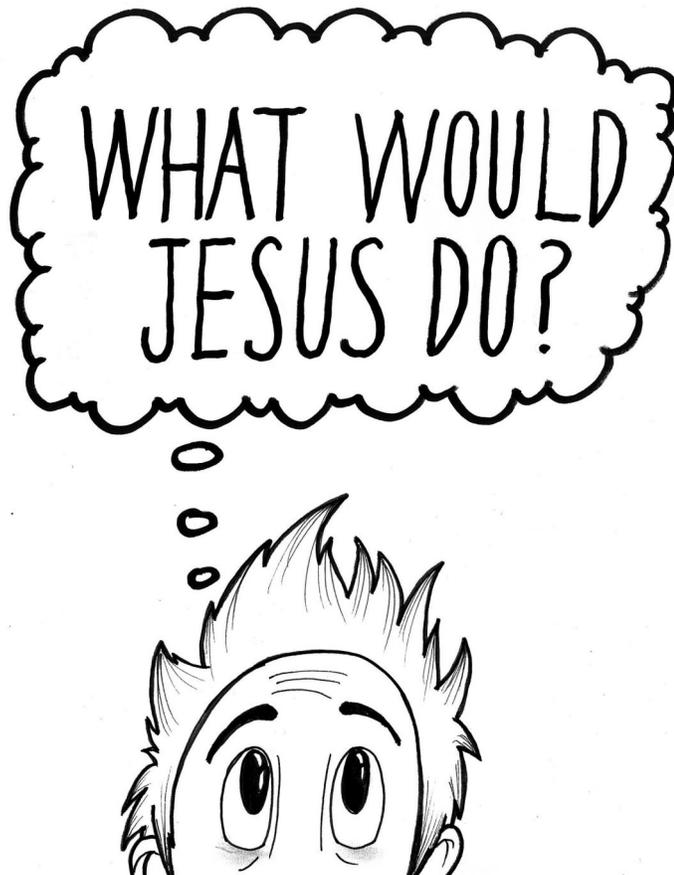
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Lastly, turn to John 13:34-35 and discuss the following questions.

1. What is sure evidence that you are follower of Christ?
2. Why do you think Jesus placed such emphasis on demonstrating love?



### TESTIMONY: HELPING ONE ANOTHER

There was once a sister, whom we'll call Mary in this story. Mary had not attended church for a very long time. She had been going through some difficult things in life, and had become very distant from God, feeling as though He was very far away from her. Mary also felt very lonely—she felt that she didn't have many friends, and that no one seemed to care about her. Her heart was miserable, and she felt lonesome.

One day, a couple of church members came to visit Mary to talk with her. They were worried about her because she wasn't attending church anymore, so they came to her house to chat and make sure she was okay. While they were sitting and talking, one of the visiting members got up and started bustling about in the kitchen.



She came out a few minutes later with a cup of tea and handed it to Mary. As soon as she handed it over, Mary began to cry. She had spent so long feeling sad and lonely that she was touched by the simple act of this church member taking the time to make her a cup of tea. Even though it was such a small gesture, for someone like Mary whose heart was in pain, it meant the whole world that someone cared enough to do something nice for her.

After the visit, Mary began to attend church again. God opened her heart to experience the love of the brothers and sisters around her, and because of this, she was able to see God's love. She was finally able to feel joy.

From this testimony, we can see that doing something nice for someone doesn't have to be something big, such as buying an expensive gift or walking a thousand miles! If we have the love of God in our hearts, even the smallest things that we do have a greater impact than we could ever imagine! Think of the little boy who came to Jesus with five loaves of bread and two fish—that was just his tiny little lunch, but Jesus was able to turn that tiny little lunch into a feast that fed five thousand people!! This just goes to show that God has the power to turn tiny acts of kindness into giant acts that can touch many hearts, as long as we act with faith!

#### How Can I Help Others?

List different ways you can do the following actions.

- A . Look out for brothers and sisters in need.
  
- B. Follow the example Jesus set.
  
- C. Practice small acts of kindness.

### How Can I Share God's Word?

*Be kind to everyone you meet.*

**LOVE IN SPEECH AND ACTION**

Read Colossians 4:6 and rewrite the verse in your own words.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

With the help of the Spirit, we can speak gracious and loving words. What can the right words do?

Prov. 12:25 \_\_\_\_\_

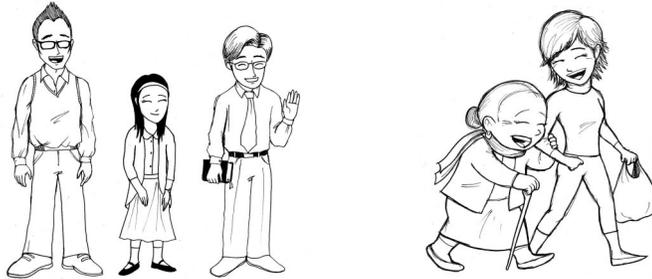
Prov. 15:23 \_\_\_\_\_

Prov. 16:24 \_\_\_\_\_

Prov. 23:16 \_\_\_\_\_

Love is not merely a feeling, but an act of will. It can only be known by the actions it produces. What are some practical ways you can personally demonstrate love in action towards the following people? Discuss with each other, and then write down some ideas that you plan to try.

1. My parents
2. My siblings
3. My friends at school
4. Church members
5. Others (neighbors, relatives, etc.)



I'm going to try to demonstrate my godly love to \_\_\_\_\_ by...

I'm going to try to demonstrate my godly love to \_\_\_\_\_ by...

I'm going to try to demonstrate my godly love to \_\_\_\_\_ by...

## E2 Year 2 Book 2 Lesson 2—I Can Help My Church

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

### What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(John 15:12)**

\_\_\_\_\_

1. Look up Luke 10:27 and write down the verse.
  
2. In the Book of James, what does it mean when it says faith without works is dead?
  
3. Fill In the Blank: When Moses held his staff high up, Israel began to \_\_\_\_\_ the battle, and when he lowered it, the Amalekites began to \_\_\_\_\_.
  
4. When Moses' arms became tired from holding the staff up, who came to his side to support his hands?
  
5. List at least 4 ways you can help your church that you've learned from class.
  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ : God did not give His life because we did anything to deserve it. What kind of love is this?
  - a. Human love
  - b. Parental love
  - c. God's unfailing love: agape
  
7. Why do you think Jesus placed such emphasis on demonstrating love? Write down one thing that you can do this week to help:
  - a. Your parents \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Your friends \_\_\_\_\_