

## LESSON 2

# I CAN HELP MY CHURCH

### Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet, Pages 1 and 2: I Can Help My Church
- Life Application Worksheet #1: Testimony "Helping One Another"
- Life Application Worksheet #2: Love in Speech and Action
- Homework

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

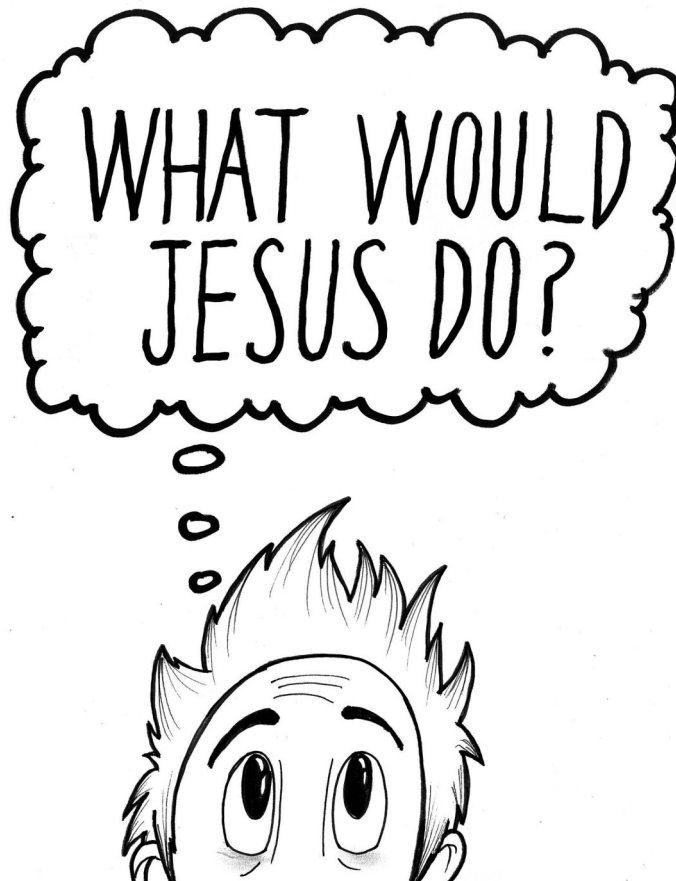
Based on this passage, what are one or two major conclusions you can make about love?

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?
2. What has God done to demonstrate His love for us?
3. What should our response to God's love be? (vv. 11, 19)

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 \_\_\_\_\_