



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts – Revelation
Unit 5, Lesson 22

Letters About Love

Lesson Aim: To understand the characteristics of love such as not envying, boasting, or being proud.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: Who is one person you love?

GAME: Share Your Heart Relay

THE WORSHIP THE SPIRIT WHO GUIDES US

Read Worship Scripture: Matthew 22:37-39.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform the Mail Call script or read storybook.

THE WORD LETTERS ABOUT LOVE

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God called Paul to boldly teach Jews and Gentiles about Jesus.

Paul was bold in his letter writing as well. He wrote to the churches he started during his travels. His first letter to the Corinthians taught them about the deepest, strongest kind of love—the love of Jesus. Point to ancient city of Corinth, Greece. This letter is found in the New Testament, along with 22 other letters written by Luke, Paul, Peter, James, John, and others. This mailbag reminds us that in Bible times believers traveled long distances to share letters written by these men. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference:

1 Corinthians 13:1-7; 1 John 4:11-12. Find It First. Highlight Key Verses:

1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Pray. Read.

THE WAY PERFECT LOVE

John wrote about how loving each other can help us see God. What do you think God looks like? We can't see God completely until we get to heaven, but John shows us that when we love each other, we can see God's love.

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, he describes perfect love in 15 ways. Remove paper hearts from mailbag. Each child chooses a heart. Each paper heart describes something about love such as "Love is patient" or "Love is kind." Read the words of Paul on your paper heart. Think about a time when you gave or received that type of

love. For example, if your heart says, "Love is patient," you might remember showing love by being patient when you taught your little brother how to catch a ball or a time when someone was patient with you while you learned something new. Children share.

Which of these hearts might describe you? Which of these hearts describes something that is often difficult for you? Children share. Remember, God is perfect in all 15 ways of loving you!

Display three hearts: "Love does not envy," "Love does not boast," and "Love is not proud." **To envy is to want what someone else has. It is also known as jealousy or greed. What situations tempt you to be jealous? How can thankfulness help you with jealous feelings? What situations tempt you to be greedy? The opposite of greed is being generous or giving. Let's count how many ways you could be generous with others this week to show them God's generous love. Children count the ways they can be generous. To boast is to brag. When are you tempted to brag? How might giving the credit to God for every good thing you do help you with bragging? What tempts you to be proud? Being humble is the opposite of being proud. What can you say or do to help you be more humble and less proud?**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

None of us are perfect at loving others. Years before Paul and John wrote about perfect love in their letters, Moses explained God's commandment about love. Reveal Deuteronomy 6:5. Find It First. Highlight. Read. It's important to God that we love Him and love others. Until next time, see how many new ways you can love God and the people He created.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- **TREASURE TREAT:** New Testament Postcard about love, stamp or sticker of a heart
- **DAILY WAY CHALLENGE**
- **OFFERING OF ART:** One way to show God's love to others
- **PRAYER REQUESTS**
- **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG**

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Heart-Shaped Snack

GAMES: How Do You Love?, New Testament Line

CRAFT: Care Package—Basket of Love

DISCUSSION: More Letters About Love

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Ask, Seek, Knock!; Race to Repeat

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW