Session Twenty-Eight: The Love Chapter - 1 Corinthians 13

Today's Point: God teaches us what it means to love and how we can live it out.

Key Passage: The Love Chapter – 1 Corinthians 13

Today's Bible Skill:

- Name Title and Scripture Reference for Key Passage The Love Chapter – 1 Corinthians 13
- New Testament Divisions

Bible Truth Activity:

Materials:

Small jar or cup Colored paper White paper Double-sided tape Pencils Colored pencils/crayons

Prepare

Cut strips of colored paper – length: long enough to go around jar or cup; width: wide enough to cover middle of jar or cup. One strip per child Cut strip of white paper – $1 \ge 4$ – at least 12 strips per child

Instructions:

As drillers arrive invite them to create a Love Jar. Instruct kids to decorate the strip that will cover the outside of their jar. Once their strip has been decorated, attach the strip to the jar using double-sided tape. Instruct kids to write or draw ways they can show love to other people.

Invite kids to join you in group time.

SAY: Today we are going to talk about something really special. Something that is more important than being really smart, really athletic, having lots of money, or the coolest toys. What do you think it is? (Allow for responses) It's LOVE.

The Bible tells us that love is the most important thing. Turn in your Bible to 1 Corinthians 13. When you find it, place your index finger on verse 13. Offer help, if needed.



SAY: 1 Corinthians 13 is a letter Paul wrote to the people in the church in Corinth. The Corinthians were doing a lot of good things. In this letter, Paul wanted to remind them that even if they were really good at speaking, having great knowledge, or being very generous, none of that matters if they don't have love.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Paul is saying that speaking beautifully without love is just loud noise. Having all knowledge without love is like having nothing at all. Helping people by using all that you have, without love, doesn't mean much.

Paul goes on to tell them what love looks like.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

CSB

Love is patient, love is kind.

Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant (it doesn't get jealous or brag)

Is not rude, is not self-seeking (love is not rude or selfish)

Is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. (Love doesn't get angry easily and doesn't keep track of when people make mistakes.)

Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and never gives up.)

Love never ends.

Read vs. 13

Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love – but the greatest of these is love.

KJV

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; (love is patient, love is kind) Charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. (it doesn't get jealous or brag) Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, (love is not rude or selfish) Is not easily provoked, thinketh not evil; (Love doesn't get angry easily and doesn't keep track of when people make mistakes.)

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth. (finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth)

Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. (Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and never gives up.)

Charity never faileth (Love never ends.)

Read vs. 13

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. (faith, hope, and love remain, but love is the greatest.)

What are some of things Paul said love is? (patient, kind, bears all things)

What are some of things that Paul said love is not? ((jealous, boastful, easily angry)

1 Corinthians 13 is known as The Love Chapter because it teaches us that love is the most important thing we can give. Even if we are really good at other things, without love, they don't mean much. But when we act with love, we please God.

When you came in today you made a love jar. You wrote down ways you can show love to others and put those in your jar. I want you to take this jar home with you. Each morning take a strip out of the jar and practice showing love that way during the day. You may want to add some new ways you can show love after studying 1 Corinthians 13. Feel free to take some extra strips home with you.

Pray: Thank God for teaching us about love. Help us to be patient, kind, and loving to those around us each day.

Key Passage Activity: The Love Chapter

Materials:

Red construction paper – 2-3 sheets per kid Heart shape pattern (2") Cardstock Markers

Prepare:

Cut out 32 - 2" hearts for each child. Print The Love Chapter 1 Corinthians 13 on a piece of cardstock (several copies for kids so kids can see it) Place materials for kids to use on tables around room. Option: Allow kids to cut out hearts.

Instructions:

Instruct kids to write each letter of The Love Chapter 1 Corinthians 13 on a different heart. Place hearts in a bag.

Once the kids have prepared their hearts, invite the kids to an area. When they hear "Love Is" they are to put their hearts in the correct order to spell out The Love Chapter 1 Corinthians 13. The first kid finished wins.

Key Passage Activity: Under Lock and Key

Materials:

3 locks with 3 keys. (can use picture of lock and key) 3 key tags Basket Bible

Prepare:

Print title of key passage on lock. Print location of key passage on key tag. Place a set of keys in one basket. Place a set of locks on the table. Place Bible next to locks.

Instructions:

Divide the kids into groups. Select the first kid to select a key tag from the basket. Look at the passage. State the passage aloud and say "start." The kids are to look up the passage in their Bible. When they have found the correct passage, they are to run to grab the key and unlock the correct lock. The player unlocking the lock gets to draw the next key tag. Continue until all three locks have been opened.

Once locks have been opened, close the Bible and each lock, and place the keys in the basket.

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