



Parent Newsletter



Session 5

God's Plan: 2 LOVE Us 4-Ever!

So...
now what
do I do?

You can
live as God's
child and
show His love
to others.

Bible Verse

Preschool: Live as Jesus did.
Show love to others.
(See Ephesians 5:2.)

Elementary: "Lead a life of
love, just as Christ did. He
loved us. He gave himself up
for us." Ephesians 5:2

Spark Principle— Chain Reaction

A series of events caused by
the one before. Sharing God's
love with others can start a
chain reaction and go on and
on and on!

Parent Devotional

Salvation is a complete and finished work of God for us. Jesus on the cross said, "It is finished!" (John 19:30). God's plan was complete and finished in that moment! When we believe, we receive a new life, a new heart. We are made new creatures; we are given a new mind and new service opens before us. The new commandment of love is the only commandment of our new life.

Probably if you or I had gone through as much as Jesus did to make salvation possible, we would have been tempted to assure the spread of our work by some supernatural means. But when the Lord Jesus Christ went back to heaven, He left only a group of people to continue His work—a people called out of the world for His glory.

The Church is the organization that the Lord has ordained to carry on His work. The whole process of evangelization boils down to one point: Someone must tell of the love of Christ and the need to accept Him as Lord and Savior. You and I and all those who have partaken of His salvation are the only messengers that He has. Throughout all of history, the Lord's people have with varying degrees of steadfastness continued this work. Now it is our turn.

The Lord promised that the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church. Instead, it will triumph until Christ returns. You and I can triumph, too, if we will let the Lord work in our lives to make us examples of the way in which members of the Body of Christ should act, both toward Him and toward others.

Bible Story Recap

Over the 40 days following Jesus' resurrection, Jesus showed Himself to His friends again and again. He ate with them and talked with them many different times. He wanted them to know that everything He had told them about God's plan was true. And He wanted to give them some important instructions.

One day Jesus and His friends went to the Mount of Olives outside Jerusalem. Jesus told the disciples to share what they had seen and heard so that other people could believe in God. He promised to always be with them, loving and helping them no matter where they went or what happened.

Then, as the disciples watched, Jesus returned to heaven, just as He had said He would. He was taken up into the clouds and disappeared from their sight.

The disciples returned to Jerusalem. And then—on a very special feast day called Pentecost—the Holy Spirit gave the disciples power to speak in many different languages. The disciples began to tell everyone the good news that Jesus had died for their sins!

Three thousand people believed in Jesus that day. They met together to learn to follow Jesus. Every day, more people became a part of God's family.

The believers shared their homes, their food, their clothes—everything they had—with one another in order to show God's love. Wherever they went, they shared the good news about Jesus; and soon there were lots of new churches in many places.

Almost 2,000 years later, the good news of what Jesus has done continues to spread around the world because people share God's love with others.

Discussion Questions

- ❖ **Before He went to heaven, what did Jesus tell His friends to do?** (Love each other as He had loved them. Tell what they had heard and seen so others would follow Jesus.)
- ❖ **What promise did Jesus give to His friends?** (He would always be with them. He would always love and help them. He'd prepare a place for them to be with Him again.)
- ❖ **What was life like for Jesus' followers?** (Met in one another's homes. Ate and prayed together. Shared everything.)
- ❖ **What does it mean to "lead a life of love"?** (Show God's love to others. Be kind and caring. Think about what others need instead of just what we want. Be like Jesus.)
- ❖ **What are some ways you can show God's love to someone today?** (Let someone else have the first turn playing games. Share toys with brothers and sisters. Be kind to a person others don't like. Help people who need help. Smile!)



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