

*Preschool Winter*  
*Lesson 11:*  
*Jesus Loves God – Valentine's Day*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Do activities that show the need to love God just like Jesus did – because God cares for us! **Luke 2:41-52**
- 2) Do activities that show love for others as well

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for Ideas

**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Charts –from previous class – one per student

**Valentine's Day Love Bugs**

- Large Pom Poms – 2 per student
- Googly Eyes – 2 sets per student (or if unavailable cut out white small circles from paper and draw 2 black circles in the middle for eyes)
- Markers to share
- Chenille sticks or pipe cleaners – 1 per student cut into four equal pieces
- Scissors for teacher to cut pipe cleaners and/or heart templates
- Heart Template – one sheet printed on pink, red or white cardstock paper and cut out 15 on page **OR**
- Heart shaped craft foam shapes – 2 per student purchased at craft store
- Craft Glue or Glue sticks to share (Craft glue works best)



**I Love God Just Like Jesus Craft**

- Chenille sticks or pipe cleaners – 1 per student
- Pony Beads – 40 approximately per student – various colours (beads that have holes in the middle large enough to go through pipe cleaner)



**Depending on time choose some optional activities to do and gather supplies**

- Jesus Goes to the Temple Page – one per student or one per class if using as visual aid
- Dolls – family members such as dad, mom, boy, girl, baby – enough for students to share and pretend
- Bibles – one per child
- Snack – Strawberry slices or cheese, cut into heart shape– enough for each student along with glass of water and napkin

**1) Introduction to lesson:**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance charts from previous class). Let each child color a star in their attendance chart for this week, if a new child arrives put their name on a chart for them and let them color in a star.

Tell them, "Last time we talked about Jesus obeying his mom and dad. We talked about how we should listen to our mom and dad as well because that makes God happy! Today we will talk about how Jesus loved God. He loved God and wanted to learn all about God so Jesus would always be excited and take the time to go and learn all he could about God.

We learn about God at Sunday school and at church services, don't we?

Can someone raise their hand and tell us what is something we do at church services on Sunday?

Let student answer – ex: give, pray, sing, read, listen, and come to Sunday school.

That's right \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name of child) There are lots of things we do when we come to worship God and Jesus on Sunday.

Does that make God happy when we worship Him? Raise your hand if you know.... Let student answer.

That's right \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name of child) Yes, it makes God very happy when we thank Him and worship Him the way He asks us too! That is a way we show love to God by obeying Him.

We will see that Jesus loves God and that we should love God too by obeying Him. We will do some fun activities today to help us remember to love God and to love others as well since God wants us to show love for others too!

Let's all say: "I love God just like Jesus!" (Help students repeat)

Let's sing some songs to get us started!

#### If My Name is.....

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

Jesus is my friend, Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

\*Fill in name of each child in the room one at a time.

#### Big Enough Song

Tune: London Bridge

I am glad I'm big enough,  
big enough, big enough,

Big enough to come to church; just like Jesus!

#### Jesus is the Son of God

Tune: London Bridge

Jesus is the Son of God, Son of God, Son of God.  
Jesus is the Son of God. Thank you God for Jesus!

#### God is Happy

Tune: Are You Sleeping?

God is happy. God is happy.

When we do right.

When we do right.

God is very happy.

God is very happy.

When we do right.

When we do right.

Repeat tune instead of "when we do right" fill in with different lines:

When we learn what's right

When we pray

When we worship Him

When we sing

When we give

When we obey

Hand out one Bible to each child. Say to students. **The Bible is VERY special. Do you know why? Because it is God's! God made the Bible for us and the Bible has all of God's Words in it for us to obey. Isn't that wonderful? God made the Bible for each and every one of us! God loves us very much and wanted each one of us to have a Bible to read, to use and to study His wonderful words.**

## 2) Jesus Loves God by Going to the Temple

10 minutes

**\*Optional Before class:** Print one Jesus Goes to the Temple Sheet as a visual aid while telling the account of Jesus' love for God. Or, if desired, print enough so that every student gets one so they can color while you read and discuss the account.

**\*During class:** Hand out crayons if allowing students to color.

Ask students:

**What is going on in this picture?** Let students answer. A young boy is talking with some men.



**This is young Jesus at the temple. The temple is where the Jewish people worshiped God. Jesus liked going to the temple to learn and study about God because Jesus loved God very much.**

**Where do we go on Sundays to worship God?** Let them guess. Church services!

**Do we show love for God by going to church services and learning about God and Jesus?** Yes!

**Did Jesus show love for God by going to learn about God at the temple?** Yes!

**We can show love for God like Jesus loves God by coming to worship on Sundays.**

**Today we are going to continue to learn from the Bible about Jesus growing up and while he grew up he followed God and loved God – we can love God too by following Him!**

**Let's read from the Bible. I will read Luke chapter 2 to see what the Bible says about Jesus and his love for God.**

**Luke 2:41-42, 47 and 52**

**<sup>41</sup> Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem. <sup>42</sup> When Jesus was twelve years old, he was allowed to go too. Jesus went to the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.**

**<sup>52</sup> And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.**

**As we see in the picture. Jesus loved going to the temple to learn about God – Jesus loved God and wanted to learn all he could about God. We can too by coming to church services and Sunday school!**

**Good job listening everyone. Now let's do an activity to remind us of what we just read in the Bible.**

After they are done coloring ask students to help clean up before moving onto the next activity.

## 3) Optional: Jesus Says – Action Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: **We are going to play a game about listening to Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is very special and we need to obey and follow Him just like He obeyed and followed God. Jesus loved God and did what He said. We can love God by doing what He says too!**

**To practice I want you to follow and do what I say.** When I say, **“Jesus says”, I want you to do what He would tell you to, ok?”** The idea is you ask the students to do different things that would show honor to Jesus.

**Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job...**

Here are some ideas to get started, you can add your own as well.

- **Jesus says go to church services** (pretend to go to church services)
- **Jesus says put your toys away** (pretend to clean)
- **Jesus says go to bed** (lay down and pretend to fall asleep)
- **Jesus says help your mother** (act like they are helping mom with something)
- **Jesus says say your prayers** (practice saying prayers)
- **Jesus says eat your supper before desert** (pretend to eat)
- **Jesus says obey your parents** (pretend to listen to parents)
- **Jesus says give a hug** (pretend to hug)
- **Jesus says - say thank you** (say thank you)
- **Jesus says - say I love you God!** (say I love you)
- **Jesus says read the Bible** (pretend to read the Bible)

Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.

#### **4) Valentine’s Love Bugs (Show Love the Way God Wants us too!)**

**10-15 minutes**

Before class gather pom poms, googly eyes, hearts cut out from craft foam or from template provided, pipe cleaners, markers and glue. Each student will make two “love bugs” to share with others.



Tell students: **We are going to make little love bugs to hand out to two different people to show them that you love them. God wants us to love and care for others. We can do that by being kind and doing nice things for others, like making nice gifts like these. When we obey God we show our love for Him – just like Jesus we can show love for God by being kind to others and coming to church services on Sunday!**

Have students glue one of the pompoms to each heart base, with the bumps of the heart facing forward. (As shown in the picture) They can print "I love you" on the base using markers if desired. Glue the googly eyes to the love bug (pompom) and the chenille stems that were previously cut into four pieces to the top for antennae. (Two pieces for each bug).

Ask students to help clean up when finished. Thank those students who choose to help and praise them for helping to encourage other students to want to help as well.

Sing the following while you clean up.

#### **Clean Up Song**

Clean up, clean up  
Everybody everywhere!  
Clean up, clean up  
Everybody do your share!  
Repeat

#### **A Helper I Will Be!**

Tune: Farmer in the Dell

A helper I will be, a helper I will be.  
There’s work to do, there’s work to do  
In my family.  
I love to help my mom; I love to help my dad.  
I love to help; it makes God glad.  
A helper I will be.

## 5) Action Rhyme and Songs

5 minutes

Let's do some action rhymes about the Bible!

### Action Rhyme – Here is the Bible

Here is the Bible (hold hands out with palms  
together like a book)  
Let's open it wide (hold hands like an open book)  
God speaks to us (point upward)  
On the pages inside (hold hands like an open  
book)

### Where Oh Where is Jesus?

Tune: Where Has My Little Dog Gone

Where oh where has the boy Jesus gone?  
Oh where, oh where can he be?  
We've looked and looked, but he isn't along.  
Where or where can he be?

"Here, oh here I am," Jesus says,  
"Right here in the Temple you see.  
I'm listening to stories from God's dear book,  
You should not worry 'bout me."

### Jesus Grows Up Action Rhyme

Jesus was a Little Baby  
(Hold arms as if rocking a baby)  
Just like me.  
(Point to self)  
First he was so very small.  
(Squat on floor)  
Then he grew to be so tall.  
(Stand on tiptoes)  
Very small, oh so tall  
(Squat then stand)  
Just like me.  
(Point to self)

## 6) I Love God Just Like Jesus Craft

10-15 minutes

**Before class:** Gather pipe cleaners and pony beads.

**During class:** Hand out one pipe cleaner to each child bending it into a heart shape as you give it to them (but don't make a twist knot at the top yet). Hand out a handful of pony beads to each child as well. Explain that we are going to make an "I love God" heart to remind us that Jesus loves God and we should love God too!

Show children how to place the beads on the pipe cleaner one at a time. After students add enough beads, twist the top ends of the heart shaped pipe cleaner together to close it.

**Ask: What is this?** A heart.

**What does this remind us of?** That we love God just like Jesus does!

**What are some ways we can show love to God?** By listening to him and being nice to others, being nice and listening to our parents, going to church services and singing, listening, praying and giving.....

Encourage students to help put away any extra beads before moving onto the next activity. Have students show each other their hearts if time before moving on as well.



## 7) Optional Activity: Follow Jesus Game

5-10 minutes

Have students line up in a row and tell them that you are going to play follow the leader. Whatever you do, they need to follow you and do. Just like we need to remember to follow Jesus, the students should follow you!

Ideas: hop on one foot, stomp your feet, march in place, flap your arms, touch your head, rub your stomach, shake your leg, shake your other leg, do jumping jacks, say a prayer, etc.

**8) Optional: We Can Love God - Family Doll Playing Time****10 minutes**

Pass around dolls and Bibles and/or other things that will help children remember what they learned - that the Bible is God's Word and in it, it says we should love God by learning about Him, just like Jesus did by coming to church services every Sunday and reading about God in the Bible.

Say, **"The Bible is from God. As we pretend with these Bibles and dolls let's remember that God gave us the Bible and in the Bible it says we need to worship Him and obey Him and that includes coming to church services. That shows God we love Him. Jesus listened, obeyed, and was kind and helpful. Because of that he grew strong and became very wise. That is why we are all here today at services - to worship God and Jesus! Let's share our dolls and Bibles and pretend that our dolls are going to church services to read the Bible and listen and obey and learn about God. Let's practice all the things we do on Sunday using our dolls. Let's practice obeying our parents as we pretend with these family of dolls too just like Jesus did!** (Pretend they go to Sunday school class. Pretend they go to worship and sit, pray, read their Bibles, give and listen.) Talk about how happy God is when we read from His Word the Bible and obey His Word. Talk about how happy our family is when we come to Sunday school and sit, listen and obey the teacher and read from the Bible. Talk about how happy Jesus is when we follow Him to church services and sit quietly and listen and learn from the Bible. Ask students what things they remember people doing every Sunday when they are at church services.

Then say to students, **"The Bible is God's Word!"**

**Do the following rhyme with your Bible:**

**Best Book of All - Rhyme**  
Books, books, big and small;  
What's the very best book of all?  
THE BIBLE!

(Repeat several times and hold up the Bible each time)

Let students play with the dolls and books and then clean up.

**9) Optional: Snack: Heart Shaped Strawberries or Cheese slices****5 minutes**

Before class: cut strawberries or cheese into heart shapes as shown in the picture. During class hand out snacks to each child. Also hand out a glass of water and napkin.

Remind children to clean up after themselves with the napkin making sure their cups and garbage are put in the garbage and that they clean up any crumbs, if any, from the table before going on to the next activity. While they are eating review what they learned; **"Today we are going to have a heart**

**shaped snack to help us remember to be caring to others! Jesus loved God, we love God too! That means we follow and obey what He says. God tells us to care for others. There are many ways to care for others. Can you raise your hands and tell me different ways we can show love and care for others that would make God happy?**



Talk about obeying God and ways we can be like Jesus and love God and others while eating the snack. After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

**10) Sing****5-10 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you, you can sing from the Song Sheet provided.

### 11) Close in prayer

Tell students that **we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this** (show students). **This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God’s Word the Bible and we need to obey God.**

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then pray: **Thank You God that You created the world and gave us the Bible. Thank you God that we can know what You want us to do by reading Your special Words – the Bible. Help us to remember to make You and Jesus happy by coming to worship Him every Sunday. Help us to remember that it is important to obey Your Word the Bible. Thank you God for sending Your Son Jesus. Thank you for the evangelists and teachers that share the good news of Jesus’ and his life. Thank You God for everyone here today and for those that couldn’t be. We love you God! Help us to remember to be kind and good to our parents, friends, neighbours and church family this week. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

### 12) Remind students

To take home their sheets/crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

### 13) Greet Parents at door

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain have teacher assistant help you take them to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!