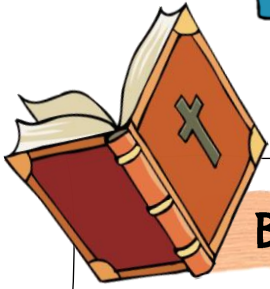


# Together @ Home



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

## Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, Jesus' teaching about loving others.

You can find it in your Bible in:

### John 15 v 9–17

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.



## A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you that you love each of us.  
Thank you that Jesus came to the earth to teach us about your love and to make a way so that all of us can come close to you.

Thank you that you call us your friends.

Help us to love others this week, to follow Jesus' example and to serve those we meet so that they can learn more about how much you love them.

Amen

## Discussion

### A question for adults to ask children

*What do you think it means to love others like Jesus loved?*

Jesus showed love to all he met, he demonstrated love in many different ways. Jesus loved by providing for needs (feeding the 5000), through healing, through teaching others about God's love, through spending quality time with friends, praying for them and serving them.

Jesus' biggest demonstration of love was dying on the cross. Jesus knew that the most important thing was for others to connect with God in relationship! He showed love by helping them to do this.

### A question for children to ask adults

*What is the most amazing way that somebody has shown they love you in the past?*

## Family Activity 1

In the passage, Jesus says "If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love."

Think about what it means to keep commands with a game of 'Simon Says' or follow the leader. Who is the best at keeping the commands and doing what they are told?





## A verse to remember

1 John 5 v 3

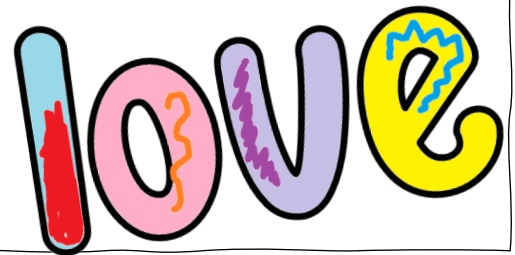
**Loving God means obeying his commands. And God's commands are not too hard for us.**

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

## Active Prayer

God invites everybody to know His love and to be His friends. We have a part to play in sharing God's love with others so that they can come to know Him too.

Think of any friends or family that you know haven't accepted God as their friend yet. Write their name in bubble writing or draw a picture of them. Colour it together and as you fill up the shapes pray and ask God to fill them up with his love.



## Family Activity 2

**Love languages:** There are many different ways to show and share love with one another. Why not try out each of these love sharing activities together and see which you prefer to give and which you like to receive.

**Quality Time** – Spend some quality time together as a family, go for a walk, watch a movie or play a board game.



**Encouraging words** – Write a letter or make a card with an encouraging message for each other or for somebody you want to send some love with.



**Physical touch** - Play a game of musical hugs! Put on some music and dance around, when the music stops everybody must give another player a hug!

**Acts of Service** – Think of an act of kindness and service you can perform as a family for a neighbour, friend or one another.

**Gifts** – Make a gift to share with somebody else, perhaps you could bake some biscuits or a cake to share or look through old clothes, books and toys in search of something you could pass on to somebody else as a gift.



# A colouring page you could print and colour together

Love image from [www.bestcoloringpagesforkids.com](http://www.bestcoloringpagesforkids.com)

## John 15 v 17

This is my command: Love each other.



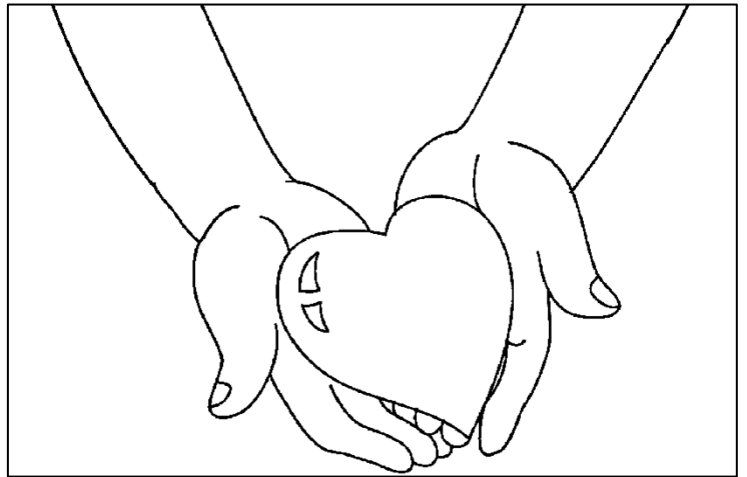
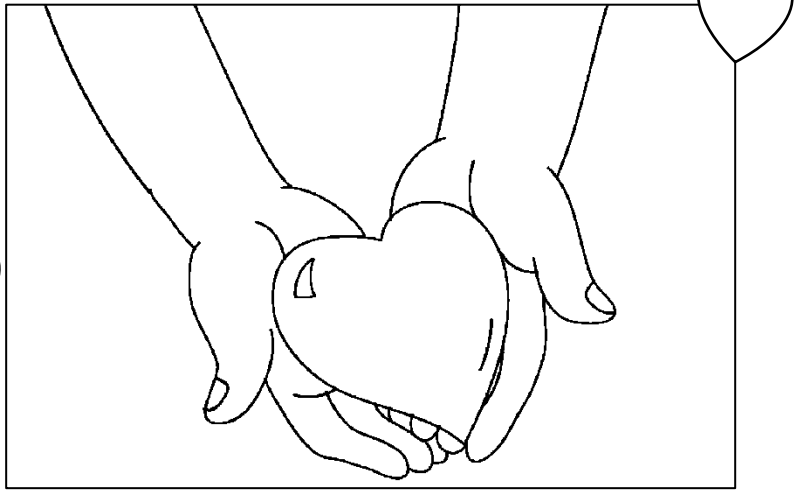
## 1 John 5 v 3

Loving God means obeying his commands. And  
God's commands are not too hard for us.

# Puzzle Sheet

Can you find ten differences between the two pictures?

Check every line!



Which two hearts match?  
Can you draw a line to connect them?



Can you find your way through the LOVE maze?

How many hearts can you count on the page?

