



## Family Lesson 65

**Principle:** We are to love everyone.

**Bible Character(s):** Jesus and a lawyer

**Scripture Reference:** Luke 10:25-37

**1. Worship** - Choose your favorite songs from the [Spotify playlist](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!

**2. Bible Lesson** - Read through the lesson with your family. The bold font is meant to be read aloud along with the Scripture references.

### Bible Lesson

Discuss the idea “Who is Your Neighbor?” with your child. You can have them draw pictures on a sheet of paper of people in their life who they see as neighbors. Ask questions about what they drew. For example: why did you choose these people? Who are some people you didn’t choose—why not? Do you think God calls us to love only the people we want to love, or does he call us to love everyone?

Today, we will learn more about love and what love is. We will examine how God wants us to love everyone, not just who we want to love. We also see how loving others can help them to come to know God.

**Last week, we talked about judging others. Who did we talk about? (A sinful woman.) Others were judging her, but Jesus said that was wrong. Why shouldn’t we judge others? (We are not in a position to judge others because Jesus is the only one who can judge.) As we see sin in others, we need to recognize our own sin and ask God for forgiveness instead of focusing on others’ sins. We can forgive others of their sin and show mercy because God has forgiven us.**

Today, we are going to go a bit further with this idea and talk about how God wants us to love others. God wants us to forgive others and show mercy. God also tells us to love everyone around us.

**Let’s begin reading the Bible in Luke 10 [NLT] to see what Jesus says about loving others:**

#### Luke 10:25-26

<sup>25</sup> *One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?”*

<sup>26</sup> *Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?”*

**This person questioning Jesus is someone who had studied the Old Testament and knew the law that Moses shared in the books of Deuteronomy and Leviticus. How does Jesus respond to this man? (Allow responses.) Jesus answers this man with a question.**

#### Luke 10:27-28

<sup>27</sup> *The man answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”*

<sup>28</sup> *“Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!”*

**What does the man do? (Allow responses.) The man quotes from Deuteronomy and Leviticus. Jesus agrees with his answer. Loving God and others is what God calls us to do.**

**Let’s examine what the New Testament says about love.** As a family, read each verse aloud. Tell your child to keep a count of how many times they hear the word “love” in each verse.

### John 13:34-35

*So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”*

### I Peter 3:8

*Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude.*

### I John 4:7

*Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.*

### I John 4:11

*Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.*

**What did you learn about love from these verses?** (Allow responses.) **The Bible talks a great deal about loving others. God has shown his love for us in giving Jesus as a sacrifice for our sin. We are to love God and others because of his love for us. How do we do this? What are ways we can love each other?**

**Ask your child if a Valentine’s Day card, a teddy bear, or a rose, are love?** Explain that you are going to read a passage from 1 Corinthians (below) to discover what love really is.

### I Corinthian 13:4-8

*<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. <sup>6</sup> It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup> Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. <sup>8</sup> Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!*

Love is much more than a feeling that you have. It’s more than a Valentine’s Day card, a gift like a teddy bear, or a rose. John 15:13 says, “There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” Jesus showed us exactly what love is. He gave his life for us. He gave himself to be crucified so that we would not have to be punished for our sin. When you love someone, you are willing to sacrifice for them. God calls us to consider others as more important than ourselves. This is how we love others.

**What are some ways that we can sacrifice for others?** (Brainstorm ideas with your child. Some examples might be giving your friend your favorite pencil when they ask to borrow one; letting your brother/sister have the bigger piece of cake for dessert; allowing your friend to go before you in line; etc.)

**Let’s go back to our passage in Luke and see how the conversation ends between Jesus and the man as they talk about whom we are to love. Do not forget that Jesus has just agreed that the man needs to love God and love his neighbor as himself.**

### Luke 10:29

*The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”*

The passage says the man wants to justify his actions. Another version of the Bible, the NIV, says, “But the man wanted to make himself look good. So he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” Have you ever asked questions in class or to your parents to try to look smart? (Allow responses.) **Maybe you asked a question so that your teacher would like you, or your friends would be impressed with you. That’s what this man is doing. The man does not have a humble heart when he asks this question.**

### Luke 10:30-36

<sup>30</sup> *Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped*

him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

<sup>31</sup> “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. <sup>32</sup> A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

<sup>33</sup> “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. <sup>34</sup> Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’ <sup>36</sup> “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked.

**Who do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked? Who was not a neighbor?** (Allow responses.) Read Luke 10:37:

**Luke 10:37**

*The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”*

**The first two people who passed the man, the priest and the temple assistant, were Jewish. You would expect these people to stop and help the man who was hurt because he also was Jewish. These two people would be considered “neighbors” or friends to this man. However, the Samaritans hated the Jews, and the Jews hated the Samaritans. No one would have thought that a Samaritan would stop and help someone who was Jewish. The Samaritan sacrificed his time and money to help someone he did not know—someone who was part of a group he was supposed to hate. He showed love to this man. God wants us to act like the Samaritan.**

**Jesus tells the man who was questioning him to “go and do the same.”** Talk with your child about how they can love those around them.

**Loving others is not about liking someone because they are fun to hang out with. It is a willingness to give up what we want for them. Who is our perfect example of love?** (Allow responses.) **Jesus. He died for us. We are called to love others by giving up what we want. Everyday, we should put the people around us first so that we can love them as God loves us. Examine your heart to see how you respond in love to others. Do you choose to put others first and love them, or do you choose to put your wants above others?** (Allow responses.) **Let’s think about the people in our lives, even those we may not like very much and are hard to love, and come up with ways that we can put those people first so that we can love them as God loves us.**

**We have talked a lot today about what it looks like to love our neighbors. There are many different ways that we can love our neighbors. Let’s ask God to show us ways to love the neighbors we encounter every day in our lives.**

**Prayer**

Spend a few minutes in prayer to close your family time. Thank God for loving us and giving us an example of how to love. Ask him to help us love as he loves, by sacrificing our desires and putting others first.

## Activity

### Loving Everyone

The purpose is to help your child understand that they are to love everyone around them.

#### Supplies:

Scenarios guide (found on [GCK Resource Page](#))

Explain to your child that you are going to read through some statements that might be ways to love your neighbor. Designate one corner of the room “Loving Your Neighbor” and the opposite corner “NOT Loving Your Neighbor.” Tell them that if they think the situation shows how to love your neighbor, then they should go to the “Loving Your Neighbor” corner. If they do not think it shows how to your neighbor, then they should go to the “NOT Loving Your Neighbor” corner.

Print out or pull up the scenarios guide and read each description out loud. Ask your child to go the appropriate corner and tell you how love is or is not being shown in the situation.

**God calls us to love everyone. Sometimes, it can be really hard to love others because it means putting the other person first. There might be times when you are busy doing something and you do not want to stop to help someone else, you do not agree with them, or you might just not want to obey your parents. By doing what you want instead of putting the other person first, you are choosing not to love that person. God calls us to love everyone. When we do not love others, we are not loving God. We should be willing to give up what we want to put others first, so that we can love them the way God calls us to love others.**

