

# How Do We Show Love?

## PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Showing the love of Jesus

**Scripture:** John 14:15

**Memory Verse:** If you love me, keep my commands. - John 14:15

## The Children's Sermon

Jesus told Peter, "If you love me, feed my sheep." This might sound a bit funny at first. You might think, "Did Jesus have sheep that needed feeding?" Well, not exactly the kind you might be thinking of. Jesus wasn't just talking about fluffy, white animals that go "baa." He was talking about people, like you and me. When Jesus said "feed my sheep," He meant taking care of each other, especially those who need help.

I think what Jesus was saying was that we have to do more than say we love each other. We show love when we take care of each other. It's like when you help a friend who fell down, or when you share your toys. That's how you "feed my sheep." You're giving kindness and help, just like you'd give food to someone who was hungry.

When we provide food to people who do not have any, we show love. But "feed my sheep" doesn't only mean giving food. It can also mean listening to someone who is sad, helping with homework, or even just smiling and saying hello. All these things are ways to feed Jesus' sheep because you're taking care of the people around you.

Now, you might wonder, "How can I, a kid, feed Jesus' sheep?" It's simpler than you think. Every day, you meet people who need your help. Maybe there's a new kid in

school who doesn't have friends yet. You can be their friend. That's a way to feed Jesus' sheep. Or maybe you see someone who's sad or upset. Just asking them if they're okay or if they want to talk is another way to feed Jesus' sheep.

Remember, feeding Jesus' sheep isn't just a one-time thing. It's something we can do every day. It's in the small acts of kindness that we show Jesus' love to the world. It's in the way we treat our families, our friends, and even people we don't know very well.

Jesus' message to feed His sheep is really about showing love and care to everyone. It's about making sure no one feels left out, hungry, or alone. When we do these things, we are following Jesus' footsteps. We are being good friends, good siblings, and good people.

Sometimes, feeding Jesus' sheep might even mean standing up for someone who is being treated unfairly. It means being brave and saying, "Hey, that's not right," and helping them feel safe and loved. Jesus wants us to be kind and brave, just like He was.

And guess what? When we feed Jesus' sheep, we also make ourselves feel good. It's like when you share your favorite snack with a friend. You might have less for yourself, but you feel really happy inside because you made your friend happy. That's the magic of feeding Jesus' sheep. It fills our hearts with joy and love, just like it fills up the hearts of those we help.

So, let's think about ways we can feed Jesus' sheep every day. Maybe we can start by saying something nice to someone, helping out at home without being asked, or sharing something we really like. Every little bit of kindness helps, and it all adds up to a lot of love.

And don't forget, feeding Jesus' sheep isn't just for kids. It's for everyone. You can even remind the grown-ups in your life to feed Jesus' sheep, too. Maybe you can do something together, like making cards for people in the hospital or picking up trash in the park. There are so many ways to show love and care for each other.

In the end, what Jesus wants us to remember is that love is an action. We show love by what we do, not just by what we say. And when we feed His sheep, we are showing the world what Jesus' love looks like. It's kind, it's caring, and it's for everyone.

So, let's go out there and feed Jesus' sheep in any way we can. Let's spread kindness and love everywhere we go. And let's remember that even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life. That's how we can be true followers of Jesus, by feeding His sheep and taking care of each other.

## Bible Memory Verse

### **If you love me, keep my commands. - John 14:15**

You Will Need:

- Heart-shaped paper cutouts
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers with words of Jesus' commands (e.g., 'Love one another', 'Share', 'Be kind')

Get Ready:

- Cut out heart shapes from construction paper, one for each child.
- Write or print and stick different commands of Jesus on stickers.

Do This:

1. Give each child a heart-shaped paper cutout and some markers or crayons.
2. Explain that Jesus wants us to show our love for Him by following His commands. Show them the stickers with Jesus' commands.
3. Let the children choose their favorite command sticker and stick it onto their heart. Then, they can decorate their heart with markers or crayons. Encourage them to hang their heart somewhere at home to remind them to keep Jesus' command every day.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Heart-shaped stickers
- Simple coloring sheets with images depicting acts of kindness (e.g., sharing, helping)
- Crayons or washable markers
- A children's Bible or storybook that includes John 14:15

Get Ready:

- Print or purchase the coloring sheets.
- Set up a small reading area with cushions or chairs where you'll read the verse from the children's Bible or storybook.
- Prepare a small table or area for coloring with the sheets and crayons/markers laid out.

Do this:

1. Gather the children in the reading area and read John 14:15, simplifying it to "If we love Jesus, we will follow His teachings. Jesus teaches us to love everyone."

2. Hand out the coloring sheets and explain that each picture shows different ways we can show love, just like Jesus wants us to. Encourage them to color the pictures while thinking about how they can show love to others.

3. As they finish coloring, give each child a heart-shaped sticker to place on their shirt or hand as a reminder that Jesus loves them and wants them to show love to others. Encourage them to share a story or example of how they can show love to someone that day.

## Snack Activity: Heart-Shaped Fruit Pizzas

You'll Need:

- Watermelon
- Yogurt (preferably vanilla or any light-colored flavor)
- Assorted berries (blueberries, sliced strawberries, raspberries)
- Heart-shaped cookie cutter

Get Ready: Slice the watermelon into 1-inch thick slices.

Do this:

1. Use the heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut out watermelon hearts. These represent the love of Jesus that we should share with everyone.
2. Spread a thin layer of yogurt on each watermelon heart to symbolize the purity and peace that comes from loving Jesus and obeying His commands, as mentioned in John 14:15.
3. Decorate the yogurt with assorted berries to make it colorful and joyful, just like our lives are when we show love to others.

## Game Activity: Love Path

You'll Need:

- A roll of wide paper (like butcher paper) or a series of large paper sheets taped together
- Markers or crayons
- Heart-shaped stickers or stamps

Get Ready: Lay the wide paper on the ground to create a long path. Along the path, draw or tape pictures that represent acts of love (helping, sharing, hugging, praying). Make sure these pictures are spaced out along the path.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that Jesus taught us to show love to others, just like He loves us. John 14:15 says, 'If you love me, keep my commands.' Part of loving Jesus is showing love to others.
2. Have the children start at the beginning of the 'Love Path.' As they step or hop from one picture to the next, encourage them to say a simple prayer or express a loving action they can do for someone (e.g., 'I can share my toys with my friend' or 'I can help mommy with cleaning.').
3. When they reach the end of the path, give them a heart-shaped sticker or stamp as a reminder that Jesus loves them and wants them to show love to others. Encourage them to place the sticker somewhere they will see it often as a reminder to show love every day.

## Craft Activity: Heart of Love

You'll Need:

- Red and white construction paper
- Safety scissors
- Glue stick

Get Ready: Cut the red construction paper into strips (1 inch wide) beforehand to make it easier for the children.

Do this:

1. Help the children take one strip of red paper and form a heart shape by bringing both ends together and securing them with glue.
2. Next, let them cut a smaller strip from the white paper (with assistance) and glue it inside the red heart to symbolize the purity and love of Jesus.
3. Encourage the children to share their heart with someone else in the class to show love, just as Jesus loves us, based on John 14:15.

## Prayer Activity: Loving Jesus by Loving Others

You'll Need:

- A large poster board
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers of hearts and smiley faces

Get Ready: Write 'I show Jesus' love by:' at the top of the poster board in large, colorful letters.

Do this:

1. Gather the children around the poster board and explain that Jesus loves us and wants us to show love to others. Mention that in John 14:15, Jesus tells us, 'If you love me, keep my commands.'
2. Ask each child to think of a way they can show love to someone, like helping a friend, sharing toys, or saying kind words. As they share, help them write or draw their idea on the poster board.
3. Give them stickers to decorate around their idea. Conclude by praying together, asking God to help them show Jesus' love to others every day.