



# 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

July 19-20, 2014

DATE

The Gospel

LESSON TITLE

Eph. 3:18; John 15:13; story of Jesus' rescue; Philippians 2:6 Adventure Bible (pp. 1187, 1298, 1304)

WHERE TO FIND IT

True Love is Self-Sacrificial

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (15 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

The extra time activities (freeze dance and a lip sync “contest”) might be fun activities to play 15 minutes before the service starts, as kids arrive. Blast the tunes and make the room festive and fun!

**Kids' Club is hosting the first-ever Family Movie Night on August 1. Please hand out invitations with the Daily Talk Starters at check-out.**

## check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to put the letter they made somewhere special.

## large group heads up

Today, we are talking about how the greatest love (Jesus') is when we lay down everything (even our lives) for our friends. We're focusing on the fact that Jesus did this for us more than we can do it for others. The truth is, when we first understand how deeply we are loved, we are set free to share it.



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### **WHAT IS LOVE?**

*\*Put kids into small groups.*

- Introduce yourself and ask each kid to share his/her name (be sure to welcome and introduce kids who join you late).
- Give each small group a large, **tear-off sheet of paper**.
- Give each kid a **marker**.
- Have kids write different words to finish this sentence: Love is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Step back and read all of them.
- Then ask kids to share the best and worst parts of their week.

**If you have extra time, remind kids of your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**

**LEAVE PAPER IN THE SMALL GROUP AREA FOR USE AFTER LARGE GROUP**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) recognize that true love gives up self for others and (2) understand that Jesus truly loves us!

**Why?** When we understand how fully we are loved by Jesus, our reaction will be to share it.

**Tip:** Make sure to give kids an opportunity to share what they heard from God during Large Group. And feel free to share what you heard too! It also might be a great opportunity for you to talk to them about different ways God speaks to you.

## small group

### REVIEW AND DIG DEEPER

\*Pass around a **beanbag** to the person who's speaking. Each group member should be prepared to hold the beanbag and answer questions.

1. Look at what you said love is (refer to Connect Time poster). What would you say now? Why? (*You may want to remind kids true love isn't just romantic: It's between us and God, us and friends, us and family, etc.*)
2. Read John 15:12 together. **John 15:13 No one has greater love than the one who gives his life for his friends.** Ask: What's the greatest way a person can show love?
3. How did Anna show this kind of love for Elsa? How did Jesus show this kind of love for us?
4. Why do you think Jesus loves us so much?
5. How did Elsa react when she realized how much Anna loved her? How should we react when we realize how much Jesus loves us?
6. Did anybody feel like God was asking you to show love this week? Tell us about it.

### ACTIVITY: LOVE FROM JESUS

We can only love others once we know how very loved we are by God. Sometimes we write notes or draw pictures for people we love.

- Give each kid a piece of **construction paper**.
- Ask kids: has somebody ever given you a really special card or picture? What did it look like? What did it say?
- Take a moment to think about what you might make for somebody *really* special.
- Use the **markers, 5 stickers and stampers** to write a letter or make a picture from God...to them!
- *If this is tough for some kids, have them first make a picture for someone special; then remind them that Jesus loves us WAY more than anybody else possibly could.*

(Continue on the following page)

- At the end, remind kids: Guess what? Jesus gave up his life for you! Pretend this letter is from him (because he loves you even more than we could ever understand). Keep it in your pocket or somewhere.

*Extra time? Have kids make a letter/picture for somebody they love. Or if all groups are wrapping up, enjoy this “Frozen” unit by playing Freeze Dance. Blast the tunes from the movie or other KC favorites and kids have to freeze when you press pause! (If you want, make them do something funny if they move, like sing along for the next round.) You could even stage a lip sync “contest”!*

## special notes

Today's clip is from the end of the movie. Make sure to thoroughly describe the situation (pictures and description are included in script) so kids who haven't seen it can still understand what the clip is illustrating.

## presenter tips

While we'll introduce ideas for how kids can apply today's truth, the emphasis of the lesson should be about really grasping the extent of Jesus' love for us.

## script

***\*Play the intro music as kids come in.***

Hi, kids. Welcome to Kids' Club! It's great to see you here. Before we start, I want to tell you guys about a really cool event: the first-ever Kids' Club Family Movie Night (**click to show movie night ad**). We're going to watch a movie...eat some treats, and have a great time! Your whole family can come and you can invite all your friends.

OK, so you guys just spent time coming up with ways to describe love. And I want to know what you guys think! (Tape up a **large piece of paper or use a whiteboard and marker**) I'm going to try to write down everything I hear, so you guys yell out the end of this sentence: Love is \_\_\_\_\_. (Let kids share responses and capture as much as you can. When the page is full or the responses are winding down, continue.)

### **JESUS' LOVE IS SACRIFICIAL**

Wow, look at all the ways you guys described love. (*Sum it up based on your group's unique responses.*) Love is hard to describe in one word, isn't it? In I John 4:8, the Bible tells us "GOD is love," which is like saying "Love is...GOD" (**write "God"** on your pad of paper somewhere within the kids' responses/circle it if it's already there). You guys listed things that describe love but God actually IS love.

But that can be a little hard to understand, huh? The cool thing is, God sent Jesus to show us what God's great love looks like. We're going to read a verse we've seen before. It tells us about Jesus' love, because Jesus loved us more than we can even imagine. This verse is in John 15:13 in the Bible.

**SLIDE: John 15:13 No one has greater love than the one who gives his life for his friends.**



## script continued

We've talked about giving up something for others before. When we give up something out of love for another person or for Jesus, it's called a "sacrifice." And that's exactly how Jesus loves us: he came to earth and died to take the punishment for all the wrong things in the world. But then, he came back to life! His love was more powerful than anything!

### **ANNA'S LOVE IS SACRIFICIAL**

Of course, Jesus shows us a great and perfect love! As much as we might love others—or they love us, we won't always act like it. But even in our broken world, we appreciate love that gives up *everything* for somebody else. In fact, we can see a love like this in one of my favorite movies....*Frozen!*

**(show picture of Anna and Elsa)** In the movie, Elsa had tried so hard to stop making everything into ice. But she couldn't stop on her own. She was causing a forever winter, but she wouldn't let her sister Anna help her. She actually tried to get Anna to just leave her alone...but when she pushed Anna away, she ended up freezing Anna's heart! Oh no!

**(show picture of Anna and Kristoff)** Anna's friend Kristoff took her to get help, but the only thing that was strong enough to save her was an "act of true love." She thought that meant she was supposed to kiss the man of her dreams.

A lot of stuff happens as she tries to get a true love kiss, but basically, she ends up in the middle of a big snowstorm, nearly dying. In the distance, she sees Kristoff coming toward her for a kiss on one side ...and her sister Elsa, in trouble, on the other side. She has to make a choice to go to Kristoff, kiss him and live...but let her sister die. OR, she could go save her sister...but then Anna would probably die. Let's watch what happened. See if Anna chooses to save herself or save her sister.

### **Video: Frozen K2\_Clip 3 (1:25:44-1:27:50)**

Wow, so did Anna choose to save herself or to save her sister? (Let kids say: Her sister.) That's right! Anna chose to save her sister by giving up—or sacrificing—her life. But guess what?? Giving up ourselves...is true love!! It's greater than any other kind of love.

### **JESUS CHOSE US**

Wow, let's think about that for a minute. ***Everybody, close your eyes.*** Imagine what it was like: Jesus was living in Heaven with God, where everything was perfect and he never got hurt and never felt sad. He could choose to stay there forever.

Or, he could choose to come to this world and rescue us, but that meant he would get hurt and sick, and people would be mean to him and dislike him. It meant he would have to die a really painful death on the cross, one that he didn't deserve. It's like getting punished for something



### script continued

you didn't do.

**OK, open your eyes.** If you're not sure what happened, I'll tell you: Jesus chose to come to this world to rescue us! And WHY did he make that choice? (Let kids respond: he loved us!) BUT, the best part of that story is that he came back to life...and since he took the punishment for all the wrong things we've ever done or will ever do, we can ALL be close to God!

### WE CAN LOVE LIKE THIS TOO

(picture of Elsa shooting "love rays") Now, when Anna gave up her life for Elsa and Elsa realized how much Anna loved her, what did she do? (Let kids say: Sent love all over.) Yes, she began sending love everywhere to take away the ice and pain.

And when we realize that Jesus gave up himself for us, what can we do? (Let kids respond. If you have a young group, move on to the examples.) Yes, we can share his love by giving up ourselves for others!

But that's hard to do, so let's watch a video with an example of people who gave up something they needed to help another person. There's a kid in this video who doesn't have a coat in a really cold country called Norway. He pretends he left it at school, then sits in front of a hidden camera and waits to see if anyone will help him. Some people do choose to help him get warm, but it means they have to *give up* being warm themselves.

As you watch, think about what you might have done. And, consider ways God might want you to show love. If you feel God asking you to show love to someone, simply place your hand over your heart. If you don't have any ideas, that's OK. Just watch what happened in this video and think about how much God loves you—he would have given up his coat for you EVERY time.

### Video: Would You Help A Freezing Child? (Social Experiment)

Wow, amazing. If you heard something from God, you'll have a chance to share it in small group. If not, that's OK. Hopefully you got a chance to think about God's love for you!

Now, everybody, stand up! (Let kids stand.) I want you to ask one person **WHY** some people chose to help that kid out. And you can't just say "they loved him" because they hadn't even met him yet! So there has to be more to it. Ready? **Everybody ask one person why some people chose to help the kid out.** (After a minute, let kids sit and have 2-3 share.)

Yes, for whatever reason, they were choosing to show love. And when we understand how deeply loved we are by God, we can act like that to others all the time too! Let's take a minute to thank God for loving us through worship. One way to worship God is by singing and dancing.

### WORSHIP (choose one if you have less than 20 minutes of service left)

The first song is all about Jesus' amazing love—so amazing it seems a little crazy! The second song is a reminder that Jesus loves us each with that crazy love...no matter what.



**script continued**

**Music Video: Crazy Love**

**Music Video: Jesus Loves Me**

**PRAY**

Ask somebody to come and thank Jesus for giving up his life for us.

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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

### Per group

- 1 large tear-off sheet of paper
- Markers

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## small group supplies

### Per kid

- 1 piece of construction paper
- 5 stickers (2 hearts & 3 other)

### Markers

Adventure Bible (pp. 1187, 1298, 1304)

1 beanbag

stampers (can re-use old ones or get an assortment from OT: IN-5/629)

### Special Room Setup

Invitations to hand out with the DTS's at check-out

### Per group

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## large group supplies

Large pad of paper (tear-off size)/can hang tear-off or use whiteboard marker

Adventure Bible (pp. 1187, 1298, 1304)

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## a/v needs

1. Intro song: Love is an Open Door (Worship Bumper folder)
2. Image: Family Movie Night ad
3. SLIDE: John 15:13 No one has greater love than the one who gives his life for his friends.
4. Image: Anna and Elsa
5. Image: Anna and Kristoff
6. Video: Frozen K2\_Clip 3 (1:25:44-1:27:50)
7. Image: Elsa shooting "love rays"
8. Video: Would You Help A Freezing Child? (<http://bit.ly/NdtNCZ>)
9. Music Video: Crazy Love (with dance moves / same location as Better than the Best)
10. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (one shot video with people in park)
11. Load all songs from the Frozen soundtrack (in the Music folder on the server)

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## connect questions

Tell me about the greatest kind of love.  
How do we know Jesus loves us?

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## parent page

Daily Talk Starts - separate doc