

# Adventures with GOD!

## LOVE OTHERS (A.2.Winter.3)

Biblical Reference	Ruth 1:1-14
Key Verse	1 John 4:11
Key Concept	I love God because God loved me first and I want to share this love with others.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Express how to share the love of God with others</li> <li>2. Tell how the story of Ruth is an example of love between friends</li> <li>3. Give thanks to God for our friends</li> </ol>

### Life Application

Even when at this age, children tend to be self-focused, not wanting to share their things with anyone else; it is a good time to learn that God, our good father doesn't act selfishly. God is not selfish. God showed us love first and that's how God wants us to be with other people. God wants all of us to learn to share what we have with others as they are gifts from God. During the week they will have the opportunity not only to show love to God, but to love others, as a way of sharing God's love.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening prayer	Candle	1 minute
Game	Illustrations, yarn, crayons	10 minutes
Review	Puppet, illustration	5 minutes
Bible exploration	Bible, illustrations, puppet	10 minutes
Songs and poem		10 minutes
Craft	Hearts cut out of fabric, paper, glue, crayons,	15 minutes
Snack		10 minutes
Closing prayer	Candle	1 minute

# Adventures with GOD!

## INSTRUCTIONS

*Note: Before you start the class, make sure you have all the necessary materials ready to go.*

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle.

**Prayer:** “God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen.” (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Game:** On a table, or hanging on the wall (make sure if you hang it it’s at eye-level), put out the illustrations that you will find in this lesson. On one side put the illustrations and on the other put a piece of paper that says, “Love other” that has long pieces of yarn connected to it. The children will connect the pieces of yarn (with tape) to the illustrations that show children showing love for one another. While they are playing, ask why they think the children are showing love.

**Review:** It’s very important to repeat the Bible verses with them that they’ve learned. Here you will use a puppet (name the puppet with the children). The pattern for the puppet is found in the following pages. Begin by saying things that God has made to show us love (family, homes, church, trees, flowers, animals, etc). Let them comment on things as well. Then use the same puppet to invite them to say things that people do to show love to others (for example, mom gives us hugs and dad makes our breakfast.) Review the Bible verse (Deuteronomy 6:5) from last week.

**Bible exploration:** Using the puppet and the illustrations from last week, ask: Who loves us more than anyone? Let them think and answer. Review the ways that God shows us love. Who gave us our family as a gift of love? Who gave us the flowers and trees to show us love? Open your Bible and remind them that the Bible is a very special book and it teaches us about God’s love. Find the book of Ruth and with the illustration found in this lesson (or using the same puppet) tell the story found in Ruth 1:1-14. (Today will only be an introduction.) Tell the story in your own words, for example:

“A man from Bethlehem had two sons and they went to live in a foreign country. They spent many years there and the sons married two women named Orpah and Ruth. After a few years the sons died and so did the father, leaving Naomi alone with Orpah and Ruth. Naomi decided to travel back to Bethlehem. Orpah stayed behind, but the Bible tells us that Ruth clung to her

# Adventures with GOD!

and decided to travel to Bethlehem with Naomi. She did not want to leave her alone.” (Don’t tell any more as you will tell more in the following lessons.)

Review the story with the children. Who was Naomi? And why was she all alone? Who was Ruth? How do you think Naomi felt when Ruth said she would travel back to Bethlehem with her? How do you feel when people show you love? How do you show love to others?

**Songs and poems:** In this lesson you will find 2 poems to teach the children. You should be standing in a circle to follow the directions and do the actions that are recommended. You can also sing songs that talk about loving others.

**Craft:** There are several different options for crafts. Choose one and have the materials ready. When you finish making it, ask the children to give their craft to another child as a way of showing love to that person. To make a chain of love, write names on the strips of paper and hook them together (see example). When the children have finished their craft together you can make a chain of love. Learn the Bible verse, 1 John 4:11, together.

**Prayer and Snack:** Invite them to pray for one of their friends in the class. Finish giving thanks to God for God’s love and for the fact that we can love others. This would also be a good moment to serve the snack.

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for making us, Thank you God for making the world. Amen

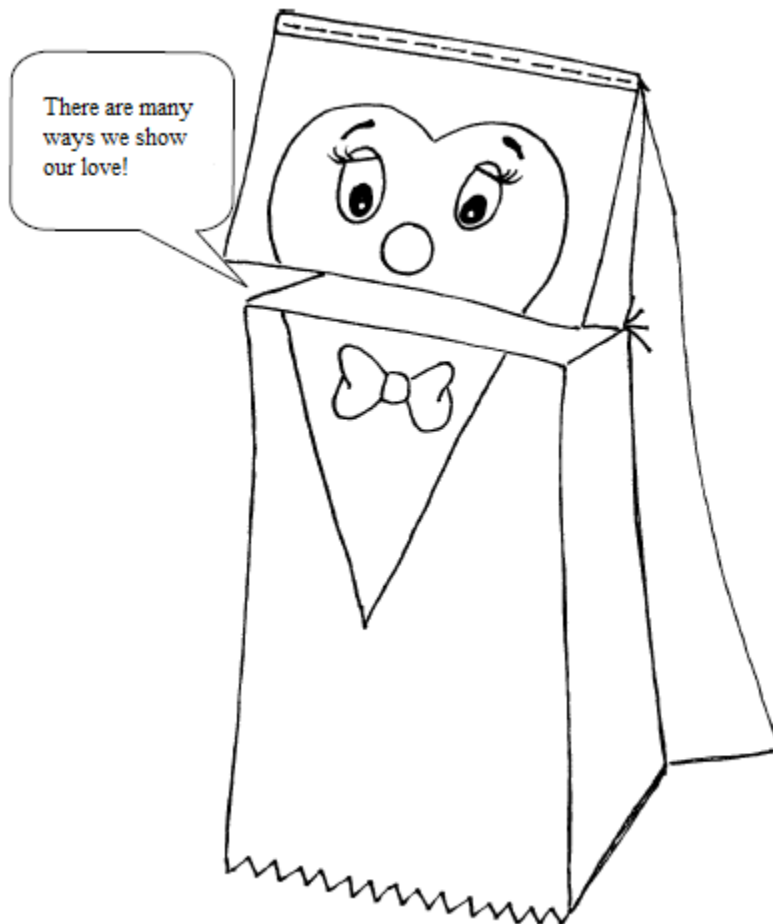
# Adventures with GOD!

## PUPPET

Materials: Paper bag, buttons or beans, pink felt, crayons, glue

Instructions:

1. With the bottom of the bag facing you, make a heart as shown in the illustration below.
2. Cut a half moon out of the pink felt (This will be the tongue).
3. Color the heart on the bag red (add buttons and/or beans for eyes and nose)
4. Glue the half moon under the flap so you can see part of it (the inside of the mouth) when you lift up the flap).



# Adventures with GOD!

## POEMS

Teach these poems using repetition and actions/motions.

### **My heart**

God gave us the sun

(Spread out your fingers like the sun's rays)

And the blue sky

(Put your hands over your eyes like binoculars and then look up to the sky)

God made this heart of mine

(put your hands on your heart)

Full of love for you

(Open your arms and hug the person next to you)

### **Bird of Love**

This is a nest of love

(Make a circle with your fingers to form a nest)

These are birds of love

(Put your two thumbs together and move your other fingers like they are wings)

Love is the sweetest word

(Put your hands on your heart)

That I have ever heard

(Cup your ear with your hand)

# Adventures with GOD!

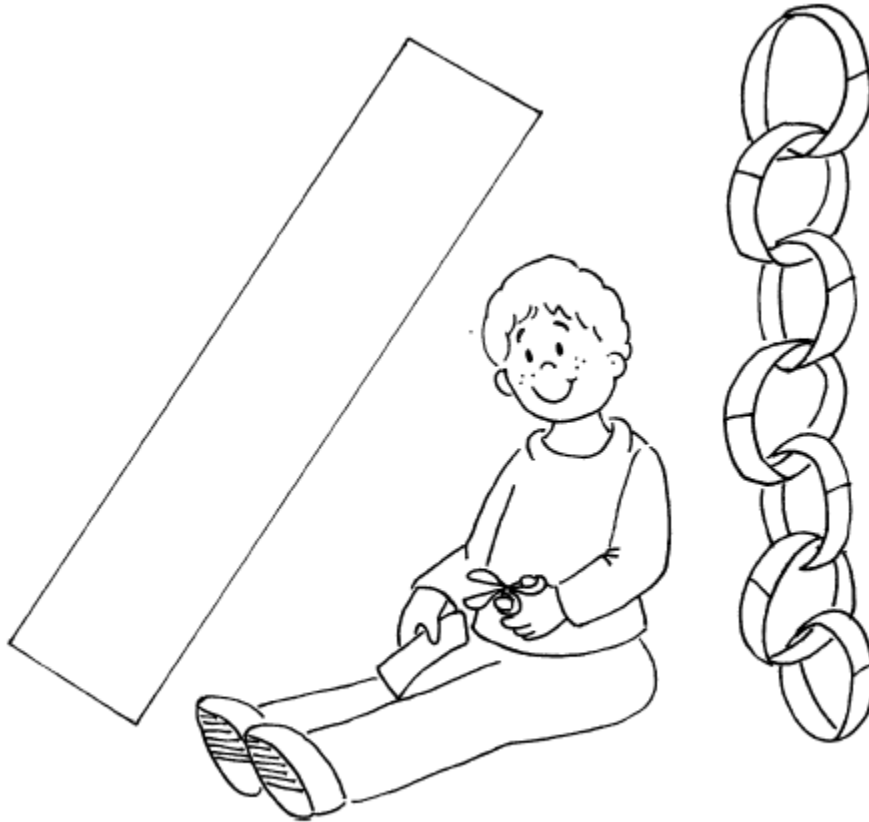
## CRAFT

### Chain of love

Materials: strips of paper as seen below, pens, glue

Instructions:

1. Write the name of each child on a strip of paper
2. Make a paper chain, hooking the strips together
3. Hang the chain on the wall



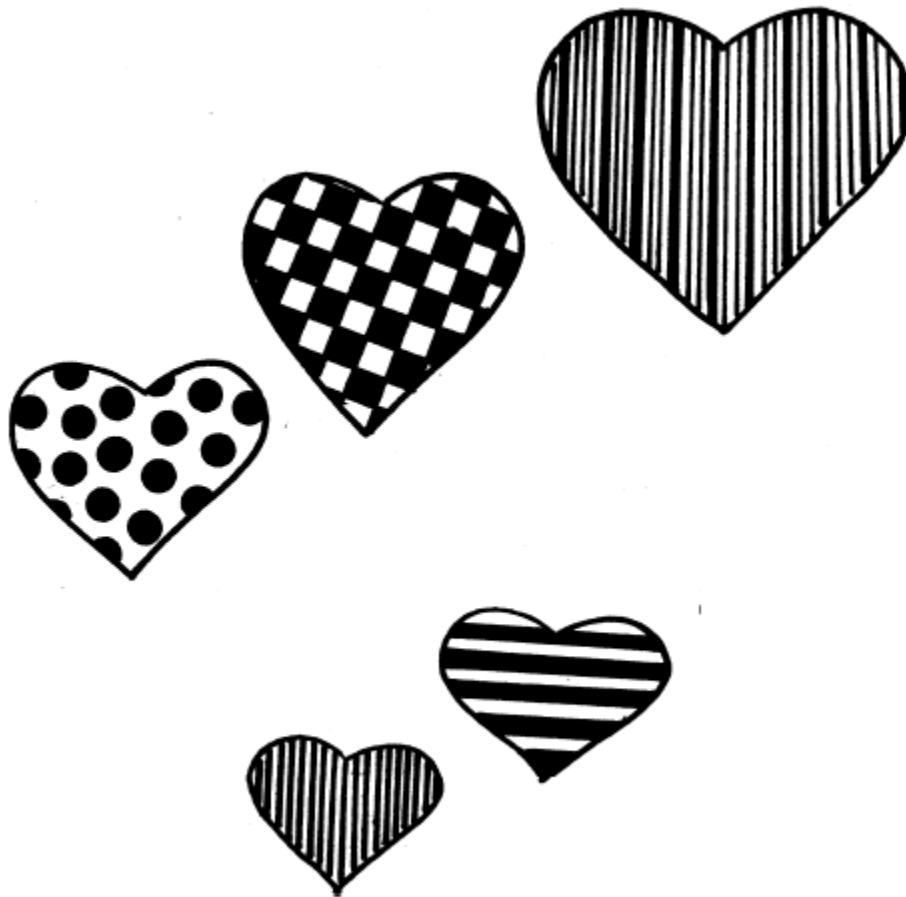
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## GIFT

Materials: hearts made from piece of fabric, colored paper, scissors, glue

Instructions:

1. Make 5 piles of hearts, each of different sizes. The children should choose one heart from each pile.
2. Give them a colored piece of paper.
3. Help them to glue the 5 hearts in a vertical column on the colored piece of paper.
4. Write "With love" and the name of the student.
5. You could also include a piece of paper with the verse for the day that they glue on the paper.



# Adventures with GOD!

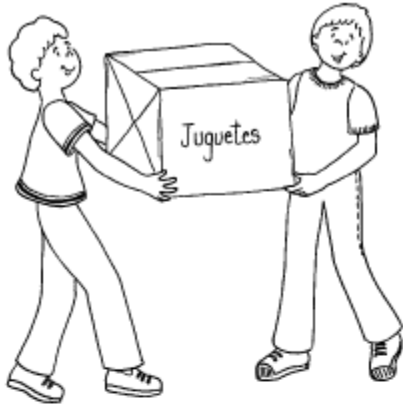
## ILLUSTRATIONS





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## ILLUSTRATIONS

### Ruth



**“We also ought to love one another.” 1 John 4:11**