

Age-Level Overview

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	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
Lower Elementary	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Computers with Kid Pix™ or similar software, color printer(s), copy paper, stapler, chart paper or whiteboard, markers</p>
Upper Elementary	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Computers, printer(s), paper, pencils, whiteboard or large sheet of paper, markers</p>
All Kids	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Computers with Kid Pix™ or similar software, color printer(s) (optional), paper</p>



Visit www.sparksundayschool.org for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.

Tear here for easy use!

COMPUTER LAB

Workshop Focus: God's love is the most important thing.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksondayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Love Is . . . Storytelling

Greet kids and show them where to sit. Welcome kids to your Computer Lab.

What kind of books do you like to read? Do you like picture books? Do you like to read chapter books? Allow time for responses.

Today we will make a picture book to give to (name of recipient). Tell kids why you chose this recipient. **You will each make a page. First, let's open to Love Is . . . on page 546 of your Spark Story Bibles to see what the subject of our book might be.** Read the story and ask kids to follow the pictures or the words.

Hold up the cover page. **The title of the story is the title of our book. Paul reminded the people who lived in Corinth what was really important. Paul said the most important thing to have is love. If we don't have love, we don't have anything. We have nothing at all.**

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

Supplies

None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

I Can Show Love

Set Up: Make sure the computers are on with the Kid Pix™ or other paint program loaded and printer or printers connected. Make a cover page with the title, "Love Is . . ." for the book kids will make. Determine the person or group who will receive the book you make. Write, "I show love by" on the chart paper or whiteboard where all the kids can easily see it.

Activity Instructions

If the kids want to write captions for their pictures, they can use the text tab. An example of a caption would be, "I show love by making cookies." Show kids the chart paper or whiteboard with "I show love by" written on it. Older kids can then write their captions by finishing the sentence with words appropriate for their pictures. Younger kids may need you and the Shepherd to help spell their captions.

In today's story Paul talks a lot about love. He tells us what love is and what love is not. He says that love is easygoing and kind. Love forgives. Love is happy with the truth. Love protects, trusts, and hopes. What are some other things that you think love is? Allow time for responses.

We can always tell people we love them. It's harder to show them. Let's make a list of specific ideas. Watch while I write, to see if there's something you want to include with your picture. How do you show love to members of your family without telling them that you love them? How about to friends? How about to people you don't even know? What are some other things that you could do? What shall I write first? Write responses after "I show love by" on the chart paper or whiteboard.

Let's get started on your pictures for our book. Each of you will draw a picture showing how you show love. You might draw something we just talked about or use a completely new idea.

When you finish drawing, use the text tab to write a sentence or title using the words on the board. Show the kids the chart paper or board with "I show love by" written on it. **If you want to write something that's not up there, you can ask for help from your Shepherd, an older kid, or me.**

Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and help where needed. Remind kids to help each other. Be sure all kids at computers get a chance to participate fully.

When kids finish, print each picture and staple all the pictures together to make a booklet. You may want to make one large book from all kids rotating through the computer workshop.

You all made great pictures. Hold up the book. Look at our wonderful book that illustrates how you show love. I think (name of recipient) will really enjoy looking at your book.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Computers with Kid Pix™ or similar software
Color printer(s)
Copy paper
Stapler
Chart paper or whiteboard
Markers

Tear here for easy use!

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Now we have an even better idea what love looks like, thanks to your wonderful book. Paul is right when he says that the most important thing is love. Thank you for coming today. Your art showed what love looks like. All this week—at home, at school, while playing—you can show love to others through your actions.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to join hands and bow their heads for a prayer.

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us and showing us how to love. Help us now to go and show your love to others. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Tear here for easy use!

COMPUTER LAB



Workshop Focus: God's love is forever.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksondayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Love Is . . . Storytelling

Greet the kids and show them where to sit. Welcome everyone to your Computer Lab. **It is good to see you all here today. Do you know what a code is? Why do people use codes? How have you used codes?** Give kids time to respond.

Today you will write short, fun quizzes. You will provide the answers, too, but you'll write the answers in code. The quiz questions will come from our story. Let's turn to 1 Corinthians 13 on page 1271 in your Spark Bibles to read what Paul has to say about love. As we read, place a Spark Spot sticker by words that would make good questions in your quiz. Ask for volunteers to take turns reading.

God's love is forever. Everything else will end, but not God's love. Codes, toys, books, money, and houses all will end, but love will never end. Love is forever. Love should be the basis for everything we do. Jesus loves everyone equally. We should try our best to do that, too.

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Love Is Quiz

Set Up: Make sure the computers are on with printer or printers connected. Set all tab settings so letters will be spaced equally. Place scratch paper and pencils at each computer station. You may find it helpful to make copies of the examples shown in Step 2 and Step 4 and tape them to each monitor.

Activity Instructions

Today the kids will create short quizzes for other kids to answer. They will write the answers in code using Wingdings or other symbol fonts. If the kids are working in groups, be sure that they work together to create their quizzes.

When we read the story today, we talked about writing quizzes and coded answers. Ask kids to move to their computers. Let's look at how you'll do that.

1. **Open your Spark Bibles and turn some of Paul's words into two to four questions. Write the questions but not the answers on your computer. You might want to write the answers on the scratch paper by your computer.**
2. **The easiest way to create a code is to:**
 - a. **Enter the alphabet, clicking on the tab key between every letter.**
 - b. **Copy and paste each line of the alphabet.**
A B C D E F G H
A B C D E F G H
 - c. **Highlight each second set of letters and change them to Wingdings or another symbol font.**
 - d. **Align the symbols with the letters. You might need help to do this.**
 - e. **This example uses Wingdings with the caps lock on.**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
✌	✋	👍	👎	👉	👈	👆	👇	👐	😊
K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
😐	😞	💣	☠	📖	📜	✈	☀	💧	❄
U	V	W	X	Y	Z				
✝	✝	✝	✝	✧	☾				

- f. **Print or save your code.**

3. **Now write the answer in code right after each question.**
4. **Print your quiz and coded answers and give copies to kids to break the code, or invite kids to come to your computer.**

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles

Supplies

Computers

Printer(s)

Paper

Pencils

Whiteboard or large sheet of paper

Markers

Tear here for easy use!

Let's do an example together. I'll write a question on the board and show you my coded answer. I am using the Wingdings font in uppercase letters.

If I give away all my money and do not have love, what do I gain?



(N O T H I N G)

Use the complete alphabet key in Step 2 to show kids how you decoded the word *nothing*. **Questions? If you are working in groups, be sure that you work together and that everyone gets a chance to use the code. Get to work creating your questions and your code.**

Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and help where needed.

Print the quizzes with the coded answers when kids finish, or invite kids to walk to other monitors to break the code.

Thanks for your hard work today. Creating a quiz and code about love was fun. But you don't want people to have to break a code to see how you show love to others.

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

What is one thing that is special about love? Kids may give a variety of answers. **The one thing I'm thinking of is that love is forever. Everything else will end, but love is forever. Thank you for coming today. Show love to family and friends this week in ways that are obvious to everyone.**

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to join hands and bow their heads for a prayer.

Dear God,

Thank you for love. Help us realize how wonderful your love is and that it is forever. Guide us as we show love to our families and friends.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



Workshop Focus: I see God's love everywhere.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksondayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Love Is . . . Storytelling

Greet the kids as they arrive and show them where to sit. Welcome kids to your Computer Lab. **It is great to have you all here today. Can you name some things that show love?** Allow time for responses. **Let's open our Spark Bibles to 1 Corinthians 13 on page 1271 and our Spark Story Bibles to Love Is . . . on page 546 to see what Paul has to say about where you might see love.** Ask some of the older kids to read the story aloud. Remind kids with Spark Bibles to have their stickers ready to use. Encourage kids with Spark Story Bibles to share the pictures with the older kids.

Paul says we can do a lot of good things, but if we do not have love, we don't have what really matters. Even if we give away something that we think we can't do without, if our heart doesn't do that with love, we don't really understand God's love. When we look for it, we can see God's love everywhere.

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Symbol of Love

Set Up: Make sure the computers are on with the Kid Pix™ or other paint software loaded and printer or printers connected.

Activity Instructions

Kids will use Kid Pix™ or another paint program to create symbols or emblems of God's love. Your most difficult task may be to help them understand the difference between a picture and a symbol. Some examples include a slingshot as a symbol for David, a rainbow as a symbol of God's covenant of never-ending love, a cross for Jesus' love and sacrifice, a whale for Jonah, or an ark for saving Noah and his family.

Do any of you know what a symbol is? What symbols do you know from the Bible? What do you think of when you see a rainbow? An ark? A whale? A slingshot? What symbols do you see in worship? Allow time for kids to respond to questions.

A symbol is not just a picture. It is an image that identifies or represents something else. Every time you see that symbol, you know what it represents. Can you name some symbols you see every day? (*computer logo, clothing brands, food brands*)

An emblem also represents something, but it usually combines several symbols. Martin Luther's seal is an emblem with a gold ring around it. What do you think that ring or circle represents? Here's a hint: we read about it earlier. Give kids time to offer ideas. **A circle or ring has no end, just like God's love never ends.** Ask kids about other common symbols for love, such as a heart and a cross symbolizing Jesus' love for us.

Today you'll make single symbols or emblems representing God's love. If you are sharing computers, decide if you'll work together to create one symbol or emblem or if you'll each make your own. In either case, be sure you help each other.

Before you start, think of as many things as you can that remind you of love and of things that have no end. Include some of them in your emblem. Tell kids if you will print their symbols or if they will view each other's work on the monitors. **Remember, a symbol is not just a picture. It represents something. It's time to draw!**

Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and help where needed. Be sure all kids at computers get a chance to participate fully.

Gather kids together and ask kids to show their work and talk about why they chose the symbols they did. Be sensitive to the fact that some kids may be uncomfortable speaking to the group.

Spark Resources

Supplies

Computers with Kid Pix™ or similar software
Color printer(s) (optional)
Paper

Tear here for easy use!

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

Isn't it a great feeling to know that God's love is everywhere? We can have all sorts of things and do all sorts of things, but if we do not have love, we have nothing. If kids printed their symbols or emblems, encourage them to post them at home where they will see them every day. **Thank you for coming today. Go now, knowing that God's love is everywhere.**

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to join hands and bow their heads for a prayer.

Gracious God,

Thank you for the fact that we can always depend on your love. Help us share your love with others. Help us remember that we gain nothing without love.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

