

LOVED

I know God loves us because He provides for us.

Lesson Plan

Prepare For It
(Teacher prep,
before class)



Get To It
(Begin the lesson)



Dig Into It
(The meat of the
Bible lesson)



Make It Real
(Hands-on activity)



Own It
(Lesson wrap-up,
review, & challenge)



COLLIDE WITH THE WORD

So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. [Romans 5:11, NLT]

PREPARE FOR IT

This time is for you to prepare for the week's lesson—heart, soul, mind, and strength. Read, contemplate, and pray.

Many preteens struggle with the question, “Who am I?” The question needs to be reframed, though, to ask “Who are we in God’s eyes?” We will explore this truth in the next four lessons. We are going to explore what it means for us as individuals. But, because we don’t live in a vacuum, we will also explore what it means for us as a community. In this lesson, your students will hear stories of God’s love displayed through His provision for people in the Bible. With your guidance, preteens will begin to see that God loves us all, will provide for us spiritually and physically, and will keep His promises.

*Check out the words in **BOLD** throughout the lesson. This is suggested conversation for you to use with preteens. Remember to use your own words and to speak naturally.*



Watch a short training video about this lesson. Access it on the WordAction Publishing YouTube channel (Life and God Training Videos playlist) or at bitly.com/lifeandgod.

Related Topics

Provision
Love
Needs

Primary Texts

Genesis 15:1-6
Genesis 17:15-20
Genesis 21:1-7
Exodus 16:11-18
Romans 5:8-11

Grab It

- Bibles
- *Crashbooks* (always grab pens and colored pencils)
- *Crashcards* (on DVD, send these home with parents)
- *Collide DVD*
- DVD player
- white board and dry erase markers
- scissors
- magazines
- glue
- tape
- access to YouTube, opt.

GET TO IT

Dive into the lesson and encourage conversation.

Pass out the *Crashbooks* and colored pencils. Have preteens turn to page 8. They will make two signs that will stay in the book. One sign will say LOVING; one will say NOT LOVING. They will write LOVING right-side up and NOT LOVING upside down.



Grab It

Crashbooks
Collide DVD
DVD player
pens or colored pencils
access to YouTube, opt.

Play this game:

1. **Love is a crazy word, isn't it? I mean, we use that word in all kinds of ways: I love my mom, I love my dog, I love BBQ chicken and anchovy pizza. What in the world do we mean when we say "love"?**
2. Read the following scenarios. Instruct your preteens to raise the sign that answers whether the action is LOVING or NOT LOVING.
3. Scenarios
 - I love mushrooms. My sister hates them. Last night when we ordered pizza, I ordered it with mushrooms.
 - My parents won't let me join [name a popular social media site] just because I'm not old enough.
 - My mom makes me eat vegetables at every dinner.
 - I call my grandmother once a week because I know she misses me.
 - I asked someone who doesn't have many friends to sit with me at lunch.
 - A girl I don't like was being picked on. I didn't stand up for her . . . but she kind of deserves it.
 - My mom won't let me skip school even though I stayed up late watching a championship game. I'm so tired!

MEMORIZE IT

View It: Play the *Collide with the Word* video for this unit. Access it on the DVD, on the WordAction Publishing YouTube channel, or at bitly.com/collidewiththeword. You will watch this video each week during the unit.

Collide with the Word: Have preteens turn to page 4 in their *Crashbooks* and do the memory verse activity. They will find the missing words in the word search, and fill in the blanks.

DIG INTO IT

The meat of the Bible lesson: where you and your students will discover the BIG POINTS and what God has to say

Big Point #1: *God shows His love by keeping His promises.*

1. I bet you've heard the statement most of your life that God loves you. What does that mean?
2. We're going to look at a few passages in the Bible to try to get a better understanding of what it means when we say God loves us.

HELP FOR IT

Depending on the experience of your preteens with the Bible, you might need to help them navigate. It would be ideal if you had multiple copies of an easy-to-read version (such as the New International Reader's Version or New Living Translation).

What Does God Say About It?

1. We're going to read about a couple named Abraham and Sarah. Abraham and Sarah wanted to have a child but couldn't.
2. Have three students look up the following passages: Genesis 15:1-6, Genesis 17:15-20, and Genesis 21:1-7. Discuss,
 - What was the problem facing Abraham and Sarah?
 - What did God promise Abraham? How did God act in their lives?
3. Have preteens turn to page 5 in their *Crashbooks*. On this page, both inside and outside this heart, write God's promise to Abraham and ways God expressed His love to them as a family. (By keeping His promise to them)



Grab It

Bibles
Crashbooks
pens or colored
pencils

Big Point #2: God shows His love by providing for us.

1. What kinds of things do we need to survive? List these on the white board. Encourage students to come up with emotional, spiritual, mental, and social needs as well as physical.
2. Another way God shows His love is by providing for our needs. God may not provide you with the best junk food you can imagine or the most high-tech gadgets. However, God knows what we need, and He is with us in our times of need.

Grab It

white board
and dry erase
markers

MAKE IT REAL: YUMMY FOOD

A hands-on activity to solidify the lesson

1. Ask preteens to describe in great detail their favorite food and what makes that food amazingly yummy. Try to get their mouths watering! **Too bad we don't have any of that! That sure would be good!**
2. **That might have been how the Israelites in our story felt. They had recently been set free from slavery in Egypt. But they were hungry and craving the food they used to have. The Israelites began to wonder if it would have been better to stay in Egypt as slaves rather than starve to death in the desert!**

What Does God Say About It?

1. Have a student read Exodus 16:11-18 out loud. Then ask,
 - What is happening in this passage?
 - In this story, how does God express love to His people?
 - How do you think Israel felt about God after they saw how He provided for them?
2. Again on page 5, write ways God expressed His love to His people.



Grab It

Bibles
Crashbooks
pens or colored
pencils

Big Point #3: God shows His love by providing for our spiritual needs.

1. Throughout Romans, Paul emphasizes that God's love and gift of salvation are for *all* people. This passage highlights God's great act of salvation by emphasizing the fact that God acted to save us *while we were still in our sin*. Regardless of who we are and where we come from, we have all sinned and are in need of God's grace. In your own words, explain this to students.

2. So we've seen how God keeps His promises and provides for us. Let's look at one more way God shows His love for us—by providing for our spiritual needs.

What Does God Say About It?

Grab It

Bibles

1. Have a student read Romans 5:8-11. Ask,
 - **In this passage, how did God show His love for us?**
 - You know your students. If they aren't familiar with the basic premise of why Jesus came to earth, take time to review how Christ's life, death, and resurrection make our salvation possible.
 - **When did God show His love for us? After we said we were sorry for our sins, or before?**
 - **Why is it important that God showed us His love by sending Jesus while we were still sinners?** (*Because it shows that His love for us isn't based on how good we are. He loves us exactly as we are.*)
2. **So God showed His love for us by sending His Son for our salvation while we were still sinners.**
If you feel led, lead preteens in a prayer of salvation. See the inside back cover of the *Leader's Guide* for a salvation guide. Be sure to follow-up with preteens who accepted Jesus as their Savior.

OWN IT

Wrap up the lesson and challenge students to OWN the theme in everyday life.

Grab It

Crashbooks

Crashcards, one per family

Collide DVD

magazines

glue

tape

scissors

1. **After reading these stories, what have you learned about God's love for you?** Have preteens turn to page 7 in their *Crashbooks*. Pass out magazines, scissors, glue, and tape. **Find examples of ways God shows His love for us today. On page 7, make a collage of these examples.**
2. Have students turn back to page 5. Have them cut out the heart on this page, according to the cut lines. They won't cut out the entire heart, but will cut out part of it and open the two sides, like a window. Cutting out this heart will reveal the heart on page 7. Then have them tape pages 5 and 7 together. **Just as God showed love to people in the Bible, He shows love for us. We can see the things God loves and begin to understand His love for us and how we can love others.**
3. **How have you seen God's love for you in your daily life?**
4. **How should we respond to God's great love for us?** (*Thank God for what He does for us; respond to His gift of salvation; trust God to provide what we need; obey God; love others*)



Here's your challenge:

1. **Go out of your way to show kindness to someone in need. We can show God how grateful we are for His love by loving those around us!**
2. **This week, write down ways you see God's love.**

Send home the *Crashcards* for this week, found on the DVD. This is a short discussion question or activity parents can do with their preteens to reinforce the lesson.