

Children's Worship Lesson – October 25, 2020

VISIONS OF PEACE

Focus Scripture: Matthew 22:34-46

Purpose: To look at the relationship between the Great Commandment and the quest for peace.

Preparation

Worship Table – green cloth

Pictures for Bible story and activity materials at the end of the lesson

2 puppets you have at home or dolls.

Opening Prayer

O God, we thank you that you love us so much
and that you help us love others.

Amen.

SONG: Neighbours – To the tune of Life is a Highway Chorus

Neighbours are people; fill you with love every day.

They help you when needed; smile, say Hello when you're out to play.

So love your God always, with all your heart, soul and mind.

He'll never forsake us, help us remember always be kind.

Introducing the Theme – Activity: Passing Friendship



We're going to play a game called "Passing Friendship." I'll start by saying, "Hello" to the person beside me. That person will say it to the next person in the circle, and so on, until it is back to me. (Start the game)

That was great! Now we're going to do the same thing, but going in the opposite direction, and saying, "Hello" in a different language. Let's greet each other in French, by saying, "Bonjour." In addition, we can say, "Hello" in Spanish, which is "hola", "namaste" in Hindu, "shalom" in Hebrew, "ohayo" in Japanese, or "ni hao" in Chinese. Be sure to include any languages that are important in your community or church family.

You just greeted each other in a lot of different languages. There are many languages in the world, and all of them have a word for "Hello."

Exploring the Theme – Bible Story

Puppet Scenarios – Helping Maria and Jerrod In Advance:

Sometimes we find it hard to be loving people. Many children and grownups, even whole countries, find it hard to love each other and be friends.

Let's pretend that these two puppets are real children, just like you. (Hold up one puppet.) This is Maria. (Hold up the other puppet.) And this is Jerrod. They are four (five, six) years old and are playing together in the same room. They are just learning to play with each other. Let's see if we can help them. (Use different voices for Maria and Jerrod.)

Maria: I like the blue car that you have. I want to play with it. Can I have it?

Jerrod: No.

Maria: Why not? I like cars too! Let me have it. (Have Maria push Jerrod as if grabbing the car.)

Jerrod: You can't have it. Go away! (Move the puppets back and forth as if fighting.)

Teacher: (in your own voice) How do you think Maria and Jerrod feel about each other? What other ways could they play with the car?

Listen to the children's responses, then use one of their suggestions to make a happier scene.

Example:

Maria: I like the blue car that you have. I want to play with it. Can I have it?

Jerrod: If I give this car to you then I won't have anything to play with.

Maria: Would you like to play with my truck? We could trade for a while.

Teacher: How do you think Maria and Jerrod feel about each other now?

Using the puppets, create a few more open-ended scenarios, which pose a problem. Invite the children to create a solution in which all the characters feel good, and then reenact it. Examples:

1. The two children are outside and want to play with the same shovel and pail.
2. The two children have one large apple and both would like to eat it.
3. One child is playing with blocks and the other knocks them over.
4. One child is playing on the leap pad and the other one grabs it out of their hands to play with it.

When we work at finding a way to solve a problem so that everyone is happy, then we are showing God's love.

I want to read you something that Jesus taught his friends. (Read Matthew 22:37) **Jesus said toward him, You will love the Lord your God, with all your heart, and all your soul, and with all your mind.**

When we say we love God with our heart and soul and mind, we mean with our whole selves. Then, Jesus continued on, saying (Read Matthew 22:39) **And the second is like it, You will love your neighbor as you love yourself.** When Jesus said to love our neighbours, he didn't mean just the people who live nearby. He meant everyone.

Memory Verse: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.*

Matthew 22:37&39

Integrating the Theme – Peace Dove

Materials: Toilet paper tubes or pieces of paper towel tubes (1 per child) with a short slit in either side of the tube. Crayons/pencil crayons/ felt markers

There is a type of bird called a dove. There is a dove in the unit 2 logo that is part of our worship center. (Show the unit 2 logo) Doves make people think of what Jesus said about loving each other and creating a peaceful world. We're going to make doves today. Colour your dove, and then I'll show you how to make its wings flap.

After each child has finished decorating their dove, put the birds into the prepared toilet paper tubes. Show the children how the wings flap if they gently wiggle the tubes up and down.

Closing Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you for our wonderful lesson today.

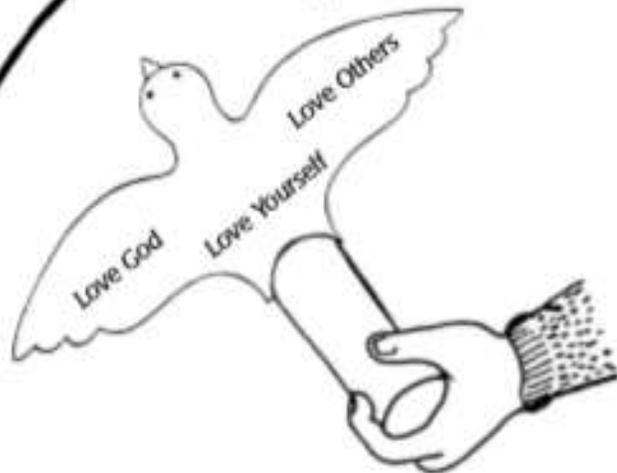
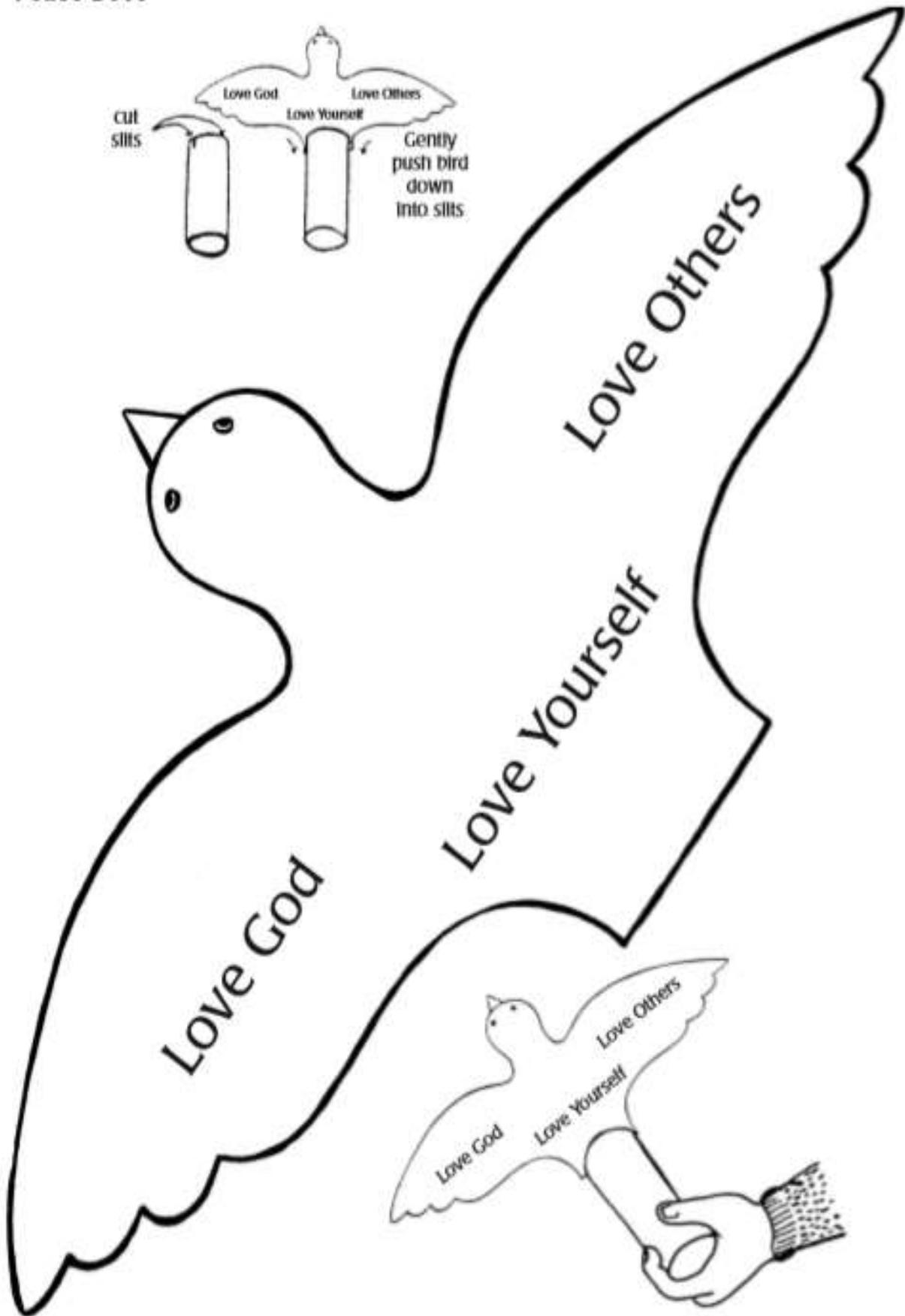
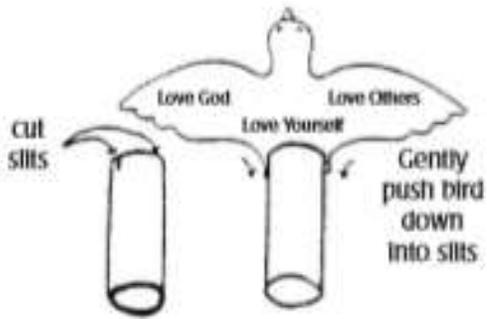
We ask that we remember how important it is to love your neighbour as you would yourself.

We ask you to bless each one of us today as we leave here, caring for everyone around us.

Amen.

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Peace Dove



October 25, 2020

Beginner Activity Sheet



Unit 2

Making a Difference

October 18 to November 22, 2020