

“LOVE”

- Say - Welcome to Sabbath school class. Let's bow our heads and ask God for understanding as we study together today.
- Say - We live in a society of constant worldly temptation and during the world's holidays the emphasis is much greater. With Christmas decorations barely stored away, it is nearly impossible, starting in January, to walk into most department stores or shops without seeing Valentine decorations in every direction! Stores merchandise "Valentine" items, from balloons, mugs, cards, candy and flowers to giant-stuffed teddy bears, by placing them directly in the entrance section of the department store.
- Say - In our lesson on "Love", we will not be spending a great deal of time on the origin of St. Valentine's Day as this subject is an easy "look up" for your individual study. However I have included a couple of websites below for your convenience which will give you information about the origins of Valentine's Day and the Feast of Lupercalia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s_Day
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lupercalia>
- Say - In one's study, it would also be of great value, as God teaches us, to look up His instructions us about the falsities of fables and myths, I Tim. 1:4, 4:7, 2 Tim. 4:4; Tts. 1:14, 2 Pet. 1:16. Also a study in Deuteronomy 6, Exodus 20 and Jeremiah 13:10 concerning God's instructions about worshipping other Gods would be beneficial as well.
- Say - What we want to focus on in this lesson is what God has to teach us about "Love" for God is the ultimate example of real love. We can begin our study by asking, what is love? The Bible gives us several definitions such as, "God is love", I Jn. 4:8. Love is the fulfilling (doing) of God's laws", Rom. 13:10, and in another place the Bible says, Charity (love) edifies or (lifts up or builds up one another)", I Cor. 8:1.
- Say - "This is love that we walk after His commandments... (with our heart mind and soul) 2 Jn. 1:6. God says, "I love (have affection for) them that love me (who keep His commandments, not do away with them or change them); and those that seek me early shall find me", Prov. 8:17.
- Say - We can learn more about what Love is in what is often referred to as the "Love chapter" in the Bible. "And though I have the gift of

prophecy, ... knowledge and ... faith, and have not love/charity, I am nothing.

Say - "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and ... give my body to be burned, and have not love/charity, it profits me nothing. Charity (love) suffers long (patient in enduring troubles and sufferings), and is kind (gracious); (love) charity envies not; (love) charity vaunts not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave unseemly, seeks not her own, is not easily provoked and thinks no evil....".

Say - "(Love) Rejoices not in iniquity (lawlessness or disobedience), but rejoices in the truth (His word is truth); (love)bears all things (one another's burdens, hardships), believes all things (that are good and Godly), hopes all things, endures all things. (Godly Love) charity never fails...", I Cor. 13:2-8.

Say - How can we establish this Godly affection of love even for our enemies? God says, "Keep yourselves in the love of God (living/fulfilling His commandments); why, because His laws are laws of love, Rom. 13:10 which reveal the very nature of God; looking for the (tender) mercy (His character) of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life", Jude 1:21, Js. 5:11. "And above all these things put on (love, Godly affection) charity, which is the bond (the uniting force between each other and God", Col. 3:14.

Say - God is recreating us to be like Him, He wants to see His face in us, Mal. 3:3. How do we develop this kind of love? "... for you are taught of God to love one another..... but ... brethren, ... increase more and more", I Thes. 4:9-10. How can this love be increased more and more in us? God teaches us through His Holy days of love. Let's consider how love is taught in each one.

Say - The weekly Sabbath is the sign that we are His. God says, "... hallow my Sabbaths (honor them because they are holy); and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God", Ez. 20:20.

Say - The Sabbath was made for us to rest (Mk. 2:27), a time to stop business as usual and play as usual and "Stand in awe and sin not: ...be still. See what the Lord has done for us", Psalms 4:4. "Hearken (listen) unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God", Job 37:14. Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you to day", Ex. 14:13.

- Say - The spring Holy Days reveal to those God calls the steps to the perfection of the love of God which is our goal. "Passover", Christ took our sins upon Him, sparing us the penalty of death, showing us the greatest love of all by giving His life for us, Jn. 15:30. "Passover" also shows God's love for us by delivering us out from the sin of Babylon's confusion and cleanses us and sets us free from sin. God says, "Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt (garment) over you,... and entered into a covenant (agreement) with you saith the Lord God, and you became mine", Ez. 16:8.
- Say - "Days of unleavened Bread" teach us the loving attribute of being forgiving of one another as God forgave us. Through the Days of Unleavened Bread we learn it is through humility we become tender, meek and gentle, the ingredients of a Godly love, and then we will be able to do unto others as He has done for us.
- Say - By acting out the "Days of Unleavened Bread", God shows us how this is possible. "Purge out therefore the old leaven (the old lust, selfishness, arrogance, greed, false doctrine, etc) that ye may be a new lump ... for Christ our "Passover" is sacrificed for us: (He laid down His life for us) ... keep the feast, ... with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (meaning a sincere and true desire to gain a Godly love), I Cor. 5:7, 8.
- Say - "Pentecost" shows God's love for us by giving us His spirit, His power, that through Him we can rule over sin so we can develop His perfect love. His spirit gives us life for once we were, "Dead in our sins but He has made us alive together with Christ...and by His grace (love) we are saved", Eph. 2:5.
- Say - During Passover Jesus told His disciples and us, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you", Jn. 13:35. It is through the Spring Holy Days we learn of this kind of love and how to love like Christ. Then we too will be able to say as He did on the stake, "Forgive them for they know not what they do", Lk. 23:34.
- Say - The Fall Holy Days symbolize the reward time for those who love God. The "Feast of Trumpets" symbolize a time when the warning sound will be heard announcing the return of Christ our Shepherd, the King of Kings! We will have overcome the wicked one and will have conquered death through His love to a life everlasting, I Jn. 2:14, I Jn. 4:4, Rev. 17:4.

Say - At last the fulfillment of the "Day of Atonement" when "at-one" with God we will be as we are drawn unto Him. Finally, with Satan banished, The Kingdom of God, pictured by the "Feast of Tabernacles" will be established upon the earth and "the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one", Zec. 14:4, 9. Governed by His Holy Law of love, the world will learn real justice, mercy and peace!

Say - God will say to His Bride, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready", Matt. 25:21, Rev. 19:17. It will be a celebration, like no other for the entire world, Zec. 14:16!

Say - Finally "The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished...", Rev. 20:5, symbolized by the "Last Great Day", the final step in God's plan of salvation for all mankind and they too will learn the truth of God and know the love of God for the very first time. It is a LOVE STORY like no other!

MEMORY VERSE

LOVE WORKETH NO ILL TO HIS NEIGHBOR;
THEREFORE LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF
GOD'S LAW.
ROMANS 13:10

http://www.akidsheart.com/bible/july/ljhn4_8c.htm

NOTE: Copy and paste above sites into the address bar of the browser if you are unable to link to them directly from here.

BELOW ARE THE MEMORY VERSES TO BE CUT OUT AND PLACED WITH THE APPROPRIATE PICTURE FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL BOOKS.

MEMORY VERSE

LOVE WORKETH NO ILL TO HIS NEIGHBOR;
THEREFORE LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF
GOD'S LAW.
ROMANS 13:10

MEMORY VERSE FOR TOTS

MEMORY VERSE
LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF GOD'S LAW.
ROMANS 13:10

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR
TOTS.

“LOVE”

LOVE IS PATIENT, GENTLE AND OH SO
KIND;
LOVE IS WHAT MAKES OUR FRIENDSHIPS
SHINE!

LOVE LIFTS US UP, LOVE NEVER PUTS US
DOWN;
IT'S GOD'S KIND OF LOVE WE WANT TO
SPREAD AROUND.

LOVE IS SHARING ANOTHER'S HARDSHIPS
FROM DAY TO DAY;
GIVING HOPE TO ALL THAT SOON GOOD-
NESS WILL COME THEIR WAY.

THROUGH GOD'S HOLY DAYS, WE CAN
GROW IN LOVE;
AS HIS PLAN OF SALVATION IS MADE
KNOWN TO US.

HIS HOLY DAYS TEACH US HE REMOVES
THE DEATH PENALTY OF SIN;
IT'S THROUGH HIS SALVATION PLAN
ETERNAL LIFE WE'LL WIN.

LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF GOD'S LAW.
ROMANS 13:10