

LOVE FOR GOD

Matthew 22:37



Contents

Message	God is love. We love God because He loved us first.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Our love for God is demonstrated by living according to His commandments and the gospel.■ Our love for God is demonstrated by serving Him.
Bible Text	Matthew 22:37

Love for God



Miranda, Makayla and their parents were driving home after attending a divine service. A few minutes had past when Makayla curiously asked, "How can we show our love towards God?"

Her father replied, "Jesus commissioned His disciples to go and teach the gospel to all people. When the disciples did this, they were filled with great enthusiasm and joy. This, in turn, created a great love within the disciples towards Jesus and God. It was the disciples' great love towards God that motivated them to follow Jesus."

Makayla looked puzzled, "You still have not answered my question. How do WE show God we love Him?"

Miranda smiled at her sister and replied, "We show God we love Him by wanting to be with Him! One way we do this is by wanting to be in the divine service and wanting to partake in Holy Communion.

Makayla thoughtfully asked, "How does partaking in Holy Communion show God we love Him?"

Their father quickly replied, "That is a good question. When we are in Holy Communion, we are in fellowship with Jesus."

Makayla asked, "Are there other ways we can show God we love Him?"

Their mother replied, "Yes! We can show God we love Him when we live our lives according to Jesus' teachings and what we hear in the divine services or in Sunday School."

Miranda quickly added, "Another way to show God we love Him is to share His love with others by inviting them to church. We want everyone to know how much God loves them and for them to love God as much as we do."

Makayla curiously asked, "If I help with arranging flowers for the altar or collecting the hymn books after church, does that also show God I love Him?"

Their mother happily replied, "Yes! Now you understand! When you help in the congregation that also shows God you love Him."

Makayla smiled, "Next Sunday, I am going to ask our Sunday School teacher if there is something I can do in the congregation. I certainly want to show God how much I love Him." The family talked about what they heard in the divine service the rest of the way home.

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel...

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- How does Jesus treat the people around Him? (He loves them.)
- What examples do you remember? (Ten lepers, the paralytic man,)

Have the children repeat...

- We demonstrate our love for God by serving Him.
- We demonstrate our love for God by living according to His commandments.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- How do we show our love towards God?
(We attend Divine services, follow His advice, share fellowship with Him in Holy Communion.)
- How can we serve him?
(We aid those in need, treat neglected ones with love, forgive those who have wronged us, ...)

Repeat the Message

God is love. We love God because He loved us first.