

DAVID SHOWS LOVE TO GOD

2 Samuel 6-7

Lesson Memory Verse: Mark 12:30 “**And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart**, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: This is the first commandment.” (Grades 1& 2 memorize portion printed in **bold**.)

Lesson Aim: We should show our love to God by our actions.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – Be plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Let me tell you a story today of a man who fought a bear with a small knife to protect his girlfriend. This man and his girlfriend were walking through the woods in Canada when suddenly they saw a bear cub (a baby bear) right in front of them. Before they had time to get away from the cub, the mother bear, which was protecting her cub, attacked the man's girlfriend. To protect her, the man quickly pulled out a small knife from his pocket and stabbed the bear in the back. The bear then turned around and knocked the man over. Then the bear deeply clawed him across the face, and sent him rolling over and over. When he stopped rolling, he played dead. By the time the mother bear left, the man was badly bleeding. His girlfriend went to get help. He lived a long time after that attack by the bear. But as a result of the battle he had many scars that made his face and body look ugly. Do you think he loved his girlfriend? How did he show his love? (He was willing to die in order to save her.) Yes, he was willing to give the most precious thing he had for his girlfriend. He was willing to give his life.

HE (for Authority): Our Bible memory verse tells us that we should love God. We should love God with all our heart, and with all our mind, and with all our strength. We should love God more than anything else in our lives. This is God's most important command for us to obey. Our love needs to be more than words; we need to show our love to Him by our actions – by what we do. We need to love God just like the man who loved his girlfriend and fought the bear to save her life (1 John 3:18).

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scriptures for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. Today's story will teach us how David showed his love to God. (The following outline is given to help the teacher remember the main parts of the lesson. It is not necessary to use it as a teaching aid for the children. Teach the lesson as a story and make applications to the children as you tell it.

I. David's love was faulty (6:1-11)

David wanted to do all he could to serve God. The ark of God had been kept at Kirjath-jearim after it was returned by the Philistines. Now David wanted to bring the ark to Jerusalem because it reminded him of God's presence in his city. However, David disobeyed God in the way he tried to bring the ark to the city. God had instructed the priests to carry the ark on poles that would rest on their shoulders. David tried to bring the ark back to Jerusalem on a new cart rather than on the priests' shoulders. God showed David that He was not pleased with David's disobedience. He killed Uzziah when he laid his hand on the holy ark when it was about to fall off the cart. Even though David wanted to show his love to God, he could not do it by being disobedient to God.

WE: We must show our love to God by obeying His commands. Love and obedience go hand in hand. We cannot love God when we disobey Him. David should have known how to carry the ark of God. He had the Law of God and the priests to tell him how to carry the ark. But he heard the Philistines sent the ark back to Israel on a new cart, so he followed their actions and not the Law of God. When we show our love to God, we must show it by obeying His commands (Jn 14:21).

II. David's love was joyful (6:12-19)

David was unhappy when God killed Uzziah and he was afraid of Him when he saw His holy anger. So he sent the ark to the house of Obed-edom. When he learned that God blessed Obed-edom, he decided to try once more to bring the ark of God to Jerusalem. This time he had the priests carry the ark on their shoulders. Now he was able to show his love to God, because he obeyed God's Law. He took a few steps and stopped to offer sacrifices to God. The sacrifices were acceptable to God and David rejoiced

before the ark of God. Now his love was shown to God in the right way. He showed his joy and love for God in many ways: (1) he offered sacrifices to the Lord; (2) he danced with joy before the Lord; (3) he shouted for joy; (4) he brought back the ark with joyful music; and (5) he had a feast for all the people.

WE: We should love God with joy. Our love for God is shown by how we act before Him and by what we do for God. How do we show our love for God? Do we obey Him? Are we joyful in our love for Him? This is the right way to love God.

III. David's love was faithful (6:20-23)

David showed his love for God in his joyful excitement, but not everyone liked the way he did it. His wife, Michal, scolded David for the way he showed his joyful love to God. But David did not change his way of loving God. He told her he was doing it for God and not for people. He was faithful in his love for God. He did not allow anyone stop him from joyfully loving Him.

WE: We must love God from a faithful and genuine worship of Him. If people are excited in showing their love to God, we should not criticize them. If we are excited in our love for God, we should not stop, even if people try to shame us for doing it. People can show love to God in different ways and that is all right as long as it is a true and faithful love for Him.

IV. David's love was generous (7:1-17)

David tried to give more and more of his love to God. He brought back the ark to Jerusalem, but he still wanted to do more for God. He decided to build a beautiful house for God. This was a good thing, but it was not the plan God had for David's life. God said that he could not build it, but rather his son would build it. However, God was pleased with David because he had thought to do such a great thing for Him.

WE: We have been given many things from God. We can show our love to Him by giving some of our money to Him. We are commanded to give ten percent of what we receive back to Him. That means we should give ten cents of every dollar that we receive from our allowance or from gifts that we receive for birthdays and at Christmas. But we can give more to show our love for God. We also can show our love to Him by obeying Him, helping people and telling people about His gift of salvation.

V. David's love was submissive (7:18-29)

God told David that he could not build a house for Him. He may have been surprised, but David let God have His way. He knew that God makes no mistakes. Then God told David that He was going to give him a special son that would sit on his throne forever. David knew that God was promising to have the Messiah be born in his family. We know the Messiah was Jesus and someday He will rule all nations from David's throne. David was very surprised and showed his love to God by praising Him and thanking Him for such a great promise.

WE: We need to let God have His way in our lives. That is an important way to show our love for Him. When we submit to His will, He will bless us with great promises that will make us very joyful. Let us love God, even when He does not let us do what we want to do.

BE (for Action): It is not enough to say we love God; we need to show our love to God by our actions. How did David show his love to God? (He was joyful, faithful, generous, and submissive – let the children answer by telling the actions of David.) How can you show your love to God? (Let the children answer.) We must learn to love God with our whole heart. Our deep love for God will be shown in different ways by each of you. It will come naturally when you truly love God. Next Sunday, I would like to hear how you showed your love to God this next week. (Pray for the children to show their love to God during the coming week.)