

Loving God

Missional Message: God wants me to love Him.

Missional Challenge:

"He answered: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" -Luke 10:27

What is needed:

- Bible
- a secular love song to sing and/or a CD player with CD of the song
- four index cards per child
- pencils and/or markers

Making it Real

(Start the lesson by singing or playing on a CD player a popular secular song that you know about love: for example "What the World Needs Now")

There are many songs about love. Can you think of more? *(Children may name songs such as "Jesus loves me.")*

I have a question about love for you to think about. How do you love God? The Bible tells us exactly how we are to love God in the Bible. The book of Luke in the New Testament tells us of a time a person asked Jesus what he must do to have eternal life. Jesus responded by asking the man to tell Him what the Bible said.

The man responded with our verse for today: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

Jesus told the man his answer was right.

That passage from the Bible tells me how I need to love the Lord:

- Love the Lord my God with all my heart. My heart represents my emotions.
- Love God with all my soul. Wow! My soul is the inner spiritual part of me. The soul is the very deepest part of who humans are.
- Love God with all my mind. My mind represents all my thoughts.
- Love God with all my strength. God even wants me to love Him with my muscles.

Hey, wait a minute! I am starting to see something: God wants me to love Him with all that I am, with everything I am, do, and say. God wants us all to love Him in what way.

Prayer

God, help me to love You with all that I am. Help me to love other people the way that You love them.

Making it Stick

Have the children write on index cards the following words:

- My Emotions
- My Soul
- My Thoughts
- My Muscles

Underneath each word, have the children write how they can love God with that aspect of themselves.

Making it Personal

Memorize Luke 10:27

Draw a picture for God, showing how you love Him

Making it Home

As a family, each of you can write a love letter to God telling of the ways you love Him. Let each person share his or her letter with the other family members. Have a family prayer time telling God how much He is loved by everyone in your family.