

myMISSION

myMISSION is for women ages 18-34. When churches include missions discipleship curriculum in adult groups, participants will

- · learn of ways Christians can fulfill God's mission in the world;
- · devote time to **praying** for missionaries and the fulfillment of the Great Commission;
- · give generously and sacrificially to advance the work of God's mission; and
- · develop a missional lifestyle through actively **sharing their faith** with those around them.







TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Curriculum Resources

Missions Mosaic

Missions Mosaic provides 12 months of hands-on missions projects and ideas, missionary stories, prayer prompts, and Bible studies. It's a perfect addition to women's groups, Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or your family. A separate teaching resource, Women on Mission Leader, is available for use in group settings.

Missions Mosaic annual subscription (12 monthly issues):

- · Print \$24.99
- · Digital \$22.99
- · Print/digital bundle \$26.99

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myMISSION is a free digital resource for women ages 18–34. Each monthly unit includes a Bible study and a missions application. Visit tinyurl.com/signupWMU to get myMISSION emailed to you.





How do I get missions discipleship started at my church?

Read through the one-week lesson below.



2

Check out **wmu.com/howtoleadadults** if you have questions about getting started.

3

Schedule a free, no-strings-attached **video call with Stephanie Newton** to make sure all your questions are answered.



For questions about starting or leading a group: Contact Stephanie Newton, National WMU ministry consultant, at snewton@wmu.org or (205) 991-4017. Schedule a 30 minute video call with Stephanie at calendly.com/wmu-adults



Don't forget to connect with your state and associational WMU for events and training. Find links to state WMU websites at **wmu.com/statecontacts**.



New Customers: Save 20% Today!

Ready to get started and be on mission? **Enjoy 20% savings** on your **new curriculum order** by calling WMU Customer Service at (205) 995-4850, Monday–Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. CT. Be sure to mention promo code **START20**. (Some restrictions apply. Discount not available at wmustore.com.)



myMISSION Bible Study | We Love Because the Father First Loved Us By Allison Nickels

Passage: 1 John 4:7-21

Prepare

- Bible
- Journal
- Pen/pencil

myMISSION can be done independently or in a group of 2 or 200. It works great for a dorm room, coffee shop, or a young moms group.

Get Started

What do you think of when you think of love? Perhaps you think of the love you share with another person. Warm memories of sharing a meal with family and friends might come to mind. Or maybe you are thinking about how you love your favorite sports team, your favorite restaurant, or that pint of ice cream in the freezer you just cannot seem to leave alone. There are plenty of other examples of expressions of love. Society has a rolling list of what love could and should be. The Merriam-Webster dictionary lists nine definitions for love as a noun and four definitions for love as a verb. The word love is written in the NIV translation of the Bible more than 560 times, and the definition of "love is" occurs many times in Scripture, including in well-known passages such as Romans 13:8–10; 1 Corinthians 13; and 1 John 3–4. So, what is love?

• Read 1 John 4:7–21. Underline every time you see the word love. Consider this question: How do you define love? Describe a time, other than salvation, when you experienced love when you did not deserve it.

Study and Learn

• Read 1 John 4:7-15.

John defined love to his fellow believers in this way: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (v. 10). Twice in this chapter John points out, "God is love" (vv. 8, 16). The chapter begins with guidance on how to distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of deception. The way a person loves others can give us an idea of whether he or she knows God. The spirit of God is love. Therefore, a spirit that is not loving is not of God.

John encouraged fellowship and joy among believers. He also wanted to protect them from false teachers. He encouraged them to remain in God. Their joy would be complete by loving one another out of the overflow of love they had received from God. Scripture reveals a key characteristic of our good God: He is most loving. Although we did not, do not, and will not ever deserve it, He showed His ultimate love by sending His Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins, giving us His Spirit to work within and through us, and accepting us into His presence for life everlasting.

• Read 1 John 4:16-21.

Remaining in God is remaining in love. We are to love God and love others out of the love we receive from God. Love requires vulnerability. There is no fear in God, and there is no punishment in Him. His love flows freely through us because of the atoning sacrifice of His Son. His love is made complete in us. Because we have His love in us, we do not have to fear the rejection of others. We can love them freely, knowing we are fully loved and made complete by God, who is love.

Apply

The word *love* occurs 27 times in the NIV translation of these 15 verses. This love is specifically about God's unconditional, unwavering, and continual love He gives us.

- Do you see yourself as loved by God despite your sin?
- Who is God calling you to love unconditionally despite their sin?

Follow Up

• Read John 15:13 and Romans 5:8.

Take a moment to sit in God's unconditional and never-ending love. As you read God's Word, ask Him to reveal Himself to you more deeply through Scripture, and offer your open heart in return. Thank Him for His overwhelming love that never runs out. Lastly, ask God to reveal to you someone He is calling you to love more deeply and how you can display that love to this person.

Commit to Memory Verse: 1 John 4:19

Challenge: 1 John 4:19-21

ALLISON NICKELS is pursuing a master of divinity degree in ministry to women at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. She has a passion for seeing women flourish in community and fellowship with Jesus and one another.

Many of our myMISSION writers are young women from one of our six Southern Baptist seminaries.



Long before the school year begins and students in the United States return to campus, more than 3.6 million teachers are hard at work, preparing to receive them.

This year, you, your group, or your family can minister to teachers and administrators in your community in a variety of ways, including providing a back-to-school lunch or breakfast during teacher workdays, writing encouraging words and prayers on cards, or gifting educators small gift cards so they can stock their classrooms.

Another idea is to fill a teacher appreciation cart and roll snacks and supplies to each teacher's classroom to build relationships and provide refreshment.

Creating a Teacher Appreciation Cart

- 1. Pray for teachers, administrators, and students in your community as they begin a new school year. Ask God to guide you as you plan this project.
- 2. Choose a school in your neighborhood, considering not only elementary schools but also middle schools, high schools, and private schools. Contact the school principal to receive approval, and work with the appropriate staff member to schedule the best date and time to bring your cart.
- 3. Consider asking students in your church, especially those who attend your chosen school, to participate by being

- present on the delivery day or by helping decorate and stock the cart.
- 4. Secure a rolling cart, such as a utility cart with flat shelves.

 Decorate it with streamers, balloons, and a sign that says,

 We love (school name) teachers and staff!
- 5. Fill the cart with prepackaged snacks, sodas, and waters. You might also consider small personal gifts for teachers, such as hand lotion, individual tea packets, or pretty pens. Remember to include items appropriate for male and female teachers.
- 6. Include a card for each teacher with the name of your church, its contact information, a reminder that you are praying for the teacher, and an invitation to contact the church office with future needs.
- 7. Put a bright spot in the teachers' day by rolling your teacher appreciation cart from room to room to (briefly) share snacks and support! Leave a snack and card for teachers you may not catch in their rooms. Don't forget office and cafeteria workers, custodians, administrators, and teachers who may not have homerooms, including those who teach physical education, art, music, and library classes.
- 8. Pray for teachers and staff throughout the year.

NELL BRANUM is a retired elementary school librarian, a member of Women on Mission, and a missions enthusiast. She lives in Morris, Alabama.

The mission project is often the same project for Women on Mission and Adults on Mission, which helps adults across the church work together.