

WEEK ONE

Read 1 John 4:10–12

DAY 1

So many times when we think of love, we think of hearts—pink and red and, well, kind of girly. But that’s not really love. In fact, the Bible teaches us that the biggest example of love was Jesus coming to earth to pay for our sins. That’s not exactly something you’d find on a heart-shaped card on Valentine’s Day.

In the list below, unscramble the words to find ways we can show others we love them, even without glitter.

EROIFGV MHET
PLEH TWHI OCSREH
ASY NATKH UOY
LPYA ACCHT
ESRAH
KEBA IKOCOSE
LTE MHTE OG FTRIS
RWEIT A KAHTN UOY ENTO

THANK God for showing us what love really looks like.



(Answers: forgive them, help with chores, say thank you, play catch, share, bake cookies, let them go first, write a thank you note)

Read John 13:34

DAY 2

When it comes to following Jesus, love isn’t an option. Jesus is basically saying, “Hey, I loved you, so if you’re going to follow me, you’ve got to love each other.”

Look back at the list of ways to love others that you unscrambled yesterday. Circle one that you can do this week—or today, if possible. After you’ve done it, come back here and write about the experience—how your friend or family member responded, and how it made you feel to show them love. _____

ASK God to show you each day how to love others well.



LOVE EACH OTHER.



WEEK ONE



Read 1 John 4:19–21

DAY 3

If you have a Dominoes game at your house, get it. If not, look for something you can stand up and use like Dominoes ... like blocks or LEGO® bricks. Set the pieces up in the shape of a heart. Keep them close enough to each other that when you knock one down, it starts a chain reaction. Push one over and see what happens. Pretty cool, right? Now set the pieces up again, but this time, take out a few of the dominos that are next to each other. Those pieces represent people that you may find it hard to love. Now try knocking a piece down again to start another chain reaction. It doesn't work, does it?

The Bible says that we if we love God, we need to love others. If there are people in our lives we hate, it's like there's a missing piece. We don't get an excuse for not loving people—even if they're hard to love.

LOOK to God for help with loving even those who are hard to love.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1

DAY 4

Ask a parent for help finding something that makes a really loud noise when you hit it together—like pots and pans. Then try reading 1 Corinthians 13:1 three times out loud while your parent bangs on the "instruments." It was pretty annoying, wasn't it? And it was hard for anyone to hear what you were saying.

When our actions don't show others we love them, it doesn't matter what we say. We can say the right things to our parents, to our siblings, to our friends ... but if we don't show them love, then what we say doesn't mean anything. We might as well be banging on pots and pans.

KNOW that love isn't a word—it's an action.

LOVE EACH OTHER.

