

God's Promises

Part 2

God loves me forever.

Psalm 136:1; 2 Corinthians 1:20: Luke 15:3-7

To understand that God promises he will love us forever. God made everyone and wants a relationship with everyone.

Worship

Choose from these ideas:

- Use the theme song for this series –
“Yes and Amen” by The Housefires
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkHo70DeiMM>
- Draw a big heart on a piece of paper, stand or sit in the heart and imagine it is God’s heart. Ask God to fill you up from your toes to the top of your head with His love.
Tell each other how it felt. A good song to use whilst you are receiving God’s love is “Shepherd” by Amanda Cook
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVjedGudN8w>
- Ask God to show you pictures of his love for the people around you, draw these pictures or write these messages and give them away to the people they are for.
- Worship songs about God’s love:
“God so loved” – Hillsong Kids
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdzWhNp4cjk>

“Jesus loves me” - Hillsong Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HAFYrQx1k8>

“God’s love is big!” – Vineyard UK Kids worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmeNMneL0eI>

Intro Activity - “God’s promises” bunting

Welcome to our series – God’s promises. God made lots of promises to us in the Bible and today we are going to learn about one of them.

Each session we are creating another section of our bunting illustrating God’s promises to us. Look up our promise for today, in Psalm 136:1b. Read together what it says and add the phrase **“God loves me forever!” Psalm 136:1** to the third flag of bunting.

Explain the promises of God throughout the Bible give us hope. 2 Corinthians 1:20 says *“The yes to all of God’s promises is in Christ. And that is why we say “Amen” through Christ to the glory of God.”* Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we can be sure and confident that every promise God has made to us will happen. Therefore, we can be confident that God loves us forever – that he will never stop loving us.

Object Lesson - Overflowing love

The illustration for today can be found here:

<https://scripturelady.com/love-overflowing-gospel-magic-trick-elephants-toothpaste/>

You will need:

- A large container about the size of a large turkey pan. The sides are about 3” high.
- An empty one litre water bottle. Take off the label.
- A small juice glass.
- One packet of Active Dry Yeast.
- Enough warm water to dissolve the yeast in, no more than a 1/4 cup.

- Approximately 2 cups of 40 Volume Clear Hydrogen Peroxide; also known as stabilizer formula (This is what people bleach their hair with).
- About 13 drops of red food colouring.
- A glass bottle that will hold the peroxide.
- A teaspoon of Washing up liquid
- A funnel.
- Two labels: “God’s Love” – Attach this to the glass bottle
“YOU” – Attach this to the water bottle.

Instructions:

Pour the hydrogen peroxide into the glass bottle and add the drops of food colouring to make it a nice blood red. Pour the washing up liquid into the empty water bottle. Place the water bottle in the middle of the pan and set the glass bottle and glass of yeast and funnel to the side of the pan.

Here is the script:

Who would like to have more of God’s love?
But how do we get or grow in God’s love?

Let this empty bottle remind you of you...

Let this glass bottle remind us of God’s love. The red can remind us of the blood that Jesus shed for each of us for the forgiveness of sin.

How do we grow or get filled with more of God’s love?

(During each of the following 3 statements, you will pour some of the peroxide into the empty bottle. You will see some bubbling because of the dish soap, but don’t bring any attention to it, even though the children might say something. Just keep your focus on your talk.)

“We get filled with God’s love when we hear that Jesus died on the cross and rose again for our sins. (pour some peroxide into the glass)

“We get more of God’s love when we find out that He is a Father to us and loves us like we are His children and that

love will never stop, because he loves you forever” (pour more peroxide into the glass)

“We get even more love when we find out that He is never going to leave us and is always there for us.” (pour in the rest of the peroxide)

Knowing and believing these truths are great ways for our love to grow. But it does not stop there, God’s love grows in us and overflows out of us. How can this happen?

I have here a glass of dissolved yeast. (Hold up the yeast.) Yeast makes things grow, right? Like making bread.

Now this yeast represents you asking God to help your love grow so that it overflows to all those around you.

See what happens. (Add the dissolved yeast to the peroxide and you will have a wonderful eruption!)

WOW! When we are filled up with God’s love it spills out of us. And it keeps on growing, because like our promise said -His love for us goes on forever!

Bible story

Remember God’s promises are throughout the Bible. God always keeps his promises and today our Bible story illustrates our promise – **“God loves me forever!”** Read the story of The Lost Sheep from Luke 15:3-7.

For Younger Children: Play a game of hide and seek, hide a sheep soft toy or a cut out of a sheep. Have fun finding the sheep! Then tell the story of the Lost Sheep from a Children’s Bible. Or share a collection of things you or your child has, discuss with each other the importance of each one. Link this with the story and then read it from a Children’s Bible.

Discuss: : This Bible story told by Jesus gives us an opportunity to look into God’s heart and see the love he has for each and everyone of us. The story tells us that God is like the shepherd, who notices when one of us is lost and needs love.

And rather than ignoring us because of the 99 other people, he comes to find each one of us and looks after us, gives us the love that we need and brings us back into his love and home. God's love for us is so great that he will rescue us and make sure that we know how loved we are. God's promise is that he loves us forever.

- How does this promise help us when we don't feel good enough to be loved by God?
- How does this promise help us when we think we have done too many things wrong for God to love us?
- How does this promise help us when other people don't think they are loved by God?

Activation

- Grab a piece of paper and a pen and choose to spend time with God talking about his forever love for you. As you talk with God draw the things he shows you or doodle love all over the page.
- Make a heart prayer paper chain.
Adapted from: <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/2013/09/gods-love-for-usprayer-and-craft.html>



1. Cut out several coloured hearts of the same size.



2. Fold the hearts in half and cut out the middle sections- you can discard these or use them for something else!



3. Open out the hearts.



4. Make a cut, like so, at the side of each heart.



5. Link the hearts together by overlapping the cut edges and gluing them (a bit like making a paper chain).



6. Attach a piece of ribbon to one of the end hearts and hang on a door knob!

7. Talk about God's love for everyone and how He wants us to show love to others. Write names of people on the hearts who you would like to know God's love. As you walk past your heart paper chain each day, pray for the people you have written on each heart to experience God's love that day.

- **For Younger Children:** Make sheep masks out of a paper plate and cotton wool and act out the story, think together what it feels like to be found and loved by Jesus.
- **For Younger Children:** Talk about how much the shepherd loves the lost sheep that he keeps looking until he finds it and this is how much God loves all of us.

Make a sheep shape from white paper, colour in a face or make it from black paper. Then put everyone's name on a sheep shape and everyone put their sheep onto a green field background, saying thank you to God for loving us!

