

1 THESSALONIANS: FAITH. LOVE. HOPE.



Week Nine: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

To Parents

You are the primary discipler/equiper of your kid(s). This is evident now more than ever as we are in the strange season of this stay-at-home order. We pray this document helps equip you in training your child(ren) to grow in the knowledge of the glory and love of our great God!

April Memory Verse

John 11:25, "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.'"

Getting Started

- **Big Idea:** Jesus' work was to show us God's love. We get to work with him now to show love to others.
- **Ask Your Kid(s):**
What are your hopes, goals, dreams, or aspirations in life? What do you want to accomplish when you grow up?

Sing Together

To God Be the Glory

Visit this Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/Y0dQbfbSW0Q>

Story/Scripture

Paul was really glad to hear about the love the followers of Jesus in Thessalonica had for one another. In fact, they showed love to many people around them, too, not just those who believed what they did. Still, Paul wanted to encourage them to show even more love to others. God is love, so the more we love, the more we show people what God is like.

This kind of love Paul encouraged them to show was not just going around hugging people or letting them do whatever they wanted to do and get away with it, or just saying nice words. Paul thought the best way to show love was in how we lived our entire lives. Having control over our bodies and our desires is a way to show love to others. Staying out of other people's business and not gossiping is a way of showing love. Doing good work at our jobs and in everything we do shows love for our neighbors. Basically, making it our ambition - or our goal - to not be selfish but to give ourselves for others.

Do you know where Paul got this idea from? That's right - from Jesus. Jesus came and showed the ultimate love for us by giving up his place in heaven to be born a helpless baby in a poor family. He quietly entered the world and hardly anybody thought he was a big deal at all (at least at first). He didn't have many possessions. He didn't even have a home or his own bed. But he worked so hard to give to others. He fed people, he shared good news with them, he healed them, and cleaned them. He even gave his own life by dying for all people.

Jesus' ambition was to love. His goal was to bring us back into his kingdom and to reunite us with God. Jesus showed this kind of love to Paul, and Paul wanted to share it with others. We get to share Jesus' love with others now, too, by the work that we do in the world.

[Dialogue Questions - suggestions for families to discuss]

- How does it show love to others by doing a good job? *(think about how doing your best at school or cleaning your room might make things easier on other people)*
- Think about something you enjoy. What jobs made it possible for you to enjoy it? *(example: your favorite show is there because someone created it, your favorite food is there because someone cooked it, etc.)*
- How does your work at home or someone's job reflect God's love?

Prayer

God, thank you for loving us so much that you sent your Son, Jesus. Thank you that his work on the cross has brought us into your love. Give us your Spirit to help us join in your work of showing love to others, so they can know your goodness. Amen.

Activities

- **Craft/Worksheet:**

- *Use the notes worksheet attached for kids to take notes during the story/scripture*
- *Use the coloring page at the end of this PDF for kids to do after the lesson*

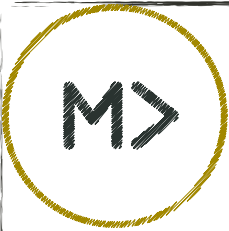
- **BLESS Activity:**

For kids to do during the week

Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask the Spirit to help us to *Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak*, and *Sabbath* (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

This week, focus on the **Bless** rhythm.

Ask your kids to think about what kind of work they can do this week to bless another person. Maybe it's cleaning something around the house to bless their parents. Maybe it's pulling weeds at their neighbors yard (without physical contact with neighbor for social distancing). How can that work open up a conversation to tell about God's love?

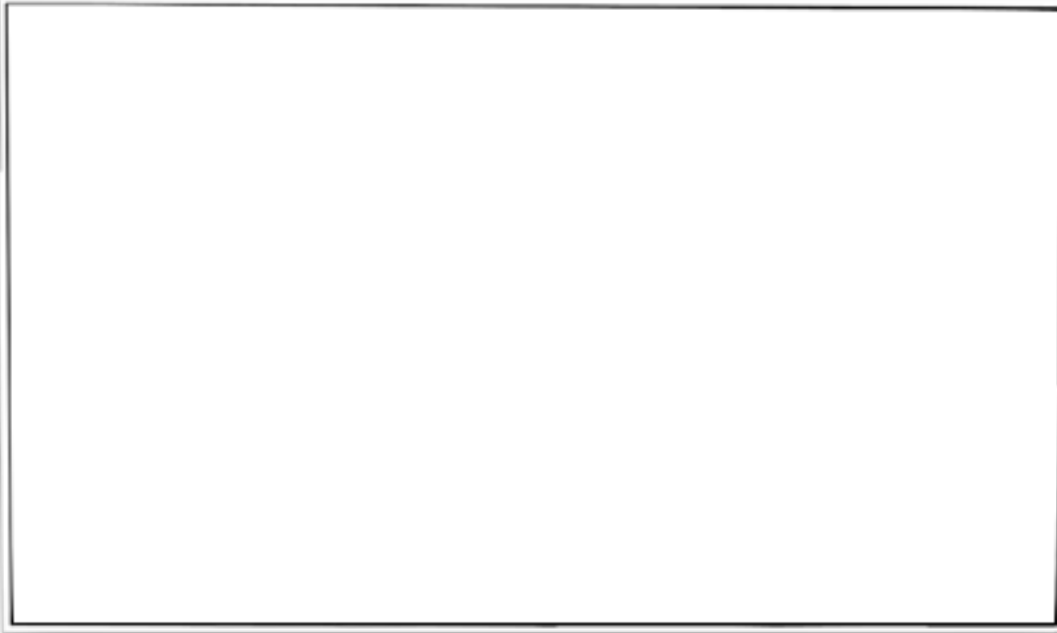


M> Kids
Sermon Notes

Words you heard
but don't know:



Draw a picture from the teaching or one of the songs:



BIBLE PASSAGE:

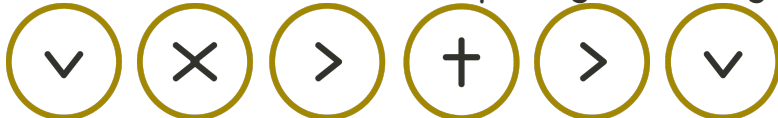
WHAT IS THE
BIG IDEA OF
THE TEACHING?



WHAT CAN YOUR
FAMILY BE
PRAYING ABOUT?

THE TRUE STORY

Color the circle where this passage is taking place in the Story



QUESTIONS FROM THE TEACHING:

.....
.....

1

WHO IS GOD?

2

WHAT HAS HE DONE?

3

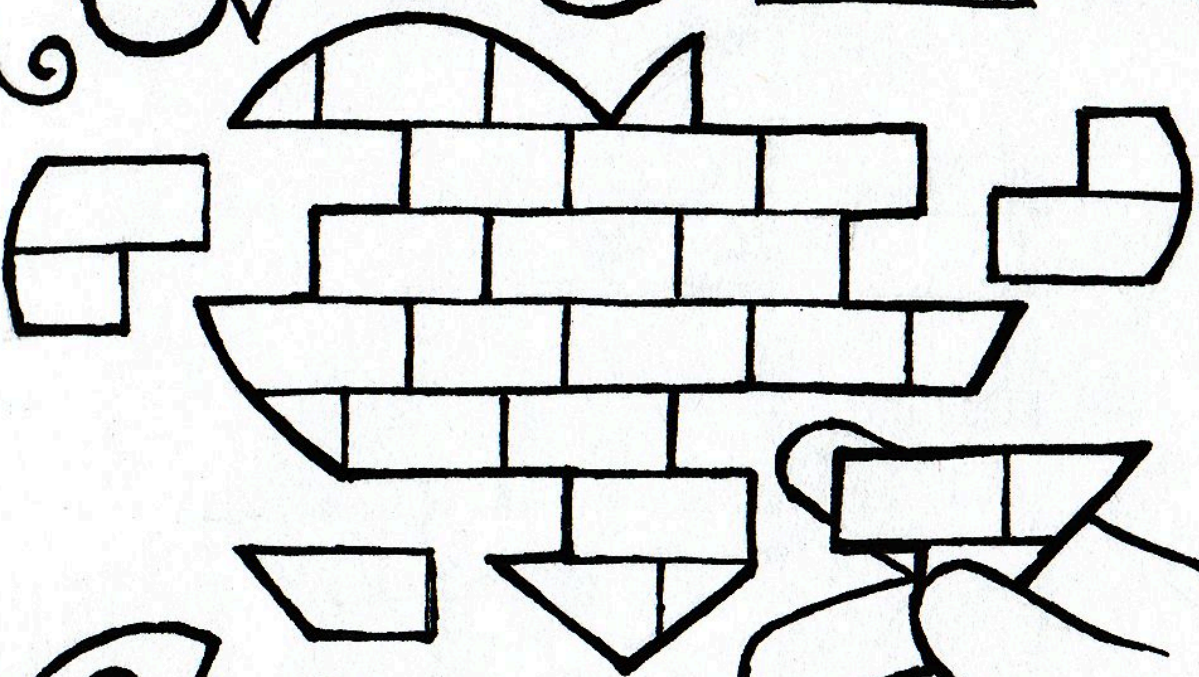
WHO ARE WE?

4

HOW CAN WE LIVE?

confident:

He
Who began a
Good Work
YOU



WILL
carry it on
to
completion

Phil 1:6
3.30.15