

"God Is Love"

Lesson 44

Introduction

- What are some of the ways that parents show love for their children?
- How do children show love for their parents, brothers, and sisters?
- In what way are we all members of the same family?

1. Manifestations of Heavenly Father's love for us

- If you were to use one word to describe Heavenly Father, what would it be?
- What word did John use to describe Heavenly Father in 1 John 4:8, 16?
- Why is this an appropriate word?
- Read 1 John 3:1–2. What manifestation of God's love did John mention in these verses? (Romans 8:14–17.)
- What must we do to be called the sons of God? (See 1 John 2:28–29; 4:7; 5:1; Galatians 3:26–27; Mosiah 5:5–9; Moroni 7:48.)
- Read 1 John 4:9–10. What manifestation of God's love did John mention in these verses? (See also John 3:16; 1 John 5:11; 2 Nephi 9:10.)
- How does sending his Son to atone for our sins manifest Heavenly Father's love for us?
- Read 1 John 4:13. What manifestation of God's love did John mention in this verse?
- How has the Spirit been an important gift in your life?
- John taught that Heavenly Father will answer our prayers if we ask according to His will (1 John 5:14–15).
- How has prayer helped you feel Heavenly Father's love?
- Why is prayer essential for us to become like our Father in Heaven?
- John taught that "we love [God], because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).
- What are some of the ways God has shown his love for you?
- How do you feel when you consider the ways God has shown his love for you?

2. Manifestations of the Savior's love for us

- Discuss the verses listed below.



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- Read 1 John 3:16. What manifestation of the Savior's love did John mention in this verse?
- What blessings can we receive because of the Savior's atoning sacrifice? (See 1 John 1:7–9; 5:11–13; 2 Nephi 9:11–13; Alma 11:40–44.)
- Read 1 John 2:1–2. What manifestation of the Savior's love did John mention in these verses?
- What is an advocate?
- What does Jesus, as our advocate, do for us? (See D&C 45:3–5.)
- John taught that the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).
- How do the Savior's life and teachings destroy the devil's works?

3. Showing our love for Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, and others

- Read 1 John 2:3–6. What can we learn from these verses about how to show our love for God? (See also John 14:15; 1 John 3:24; 5:3; 2 John 1:6.)
- How does obedience show our love for God?
- Read 2 John 1:4 and 3 John 1:4. How can our faithfulness bring joy to our Heavenly Father?
- Read 1 John 2:15–17. What can we learn from these verses about how to show our love for God?
- How do we sometimes show love for the world rather than love for God?
- How are we affected when we show love for the world?
- How can we overcome a love for worldly things?
- Read 1 John 4:7–8, 11. What can we learn from these verses about how to show our love for God? (See also 1 John 3:11, 23; 4:21.)
- How did John describe those who claim to love God

but do not "love one another"? (See 1 John 2:9, 11; 3:14–15, 17; 4:20.)

- Why is our love for others a measure of our love of God?
- How can we come to feel and demonstrate greater love for each other?
- How have you been blessed by another person's love for you?
- What are the blessings of living in a family whose members love each other and love God?
- How can we help others enjoy those same blessings as part of the family of God?

4. "Walk in the light" (1 John 1:7)

- Read 1 John 1:6–7.
- What does it mean to "walk in darkness"? What does it mean to "walk in the light"?

5. John cautions against the spirit of anti-Christ

- In his epistles, John repeatedly warned the Saints to avoid anti-Christ. What did John say anti-Christ try to do? (See 1 John 2:22–23; 4:1–3; 2 John 1:7.)
- Why do you think the adversary tries to destroy our testimonies of the Savior?
- What can we do to keep our testimonies strong?

Conclusion

There is no greater manifestation of the love of God for his children than the message of the gospel in its simplicity. Christ came and willingly gave Himself a sacrifice to His Father that if we repent of our sins, have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, be baptized by His servant in His way, and receive the Holy Ghost, and sanctify ourselves for the remainder of our lives by serving those in need, we will be like Him.