T&T Leader's Guide

Getting Ready

Do these things ahead of time to be prepared to lead your Small Group.

- ☐ *Review all parts of this lesson.*
- ☐ *Reread the Lesson Summary and make note of the main themes.*
- ☐ *Complete all the fill-in sections of the lesson yourself.*
- ☐ *Plan how you want to spend your Small Group Time based on the needs of your particular group of kids (see sample schedules below for help).*
- ☐ *Pray for God to use this lesson to disciple the kids in your group.*

Sample Schedules

The sample schedules below are for a small group time that is 30 minutes long—adjust accordingly for your allotted time.

For a group who comes with the lesson already done in their handbook:

- **5 MIN** Use a Beginning Your Group option to transition to the lesson.
- **2 MIN** Review the Lesson Summary to highlight the main idea of the lesson.
- **10 MIN** Engage your group in conversation using the Explore section and Discussion Questions.
- **8 MIN** Practice reciting the memory verse.
- **5 MIN** Ask for prayer requests and pray as a group.

For a group who needs time in club to do the handbook work together:

- **2 MIN** Use a Beginning Your Group option to transition to the lesson.
- **2 MIN** Review the Lesson Summary to highlight the main idea of the lesson.
- **12 MIN** Look up the verses and complete Explore as a group. Discuss as you go.
- **10 MIN** Work on memorizing the memory verse.
- **4 MIN** Ask for prayer requests and pray as a group.

BEFORE YOU START ... God loves you deeply and has promised to give you everything that you need to accomplish the work He created you to do. When you are feeling weak, remember that it is God's strength that makes you strong. God will make you courageous and empower you to do what He has asked of you.

SECTION **4.1** | **Discovery of Love**

Your Clubber's Handbook section is reproduced here for your reference!

Use as much or as little of the Leader "helps" to hold your own T&T club night!

TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION

Start Here

Think about an interesting neighbor you have had, or someone you've sat next to at school. What was he or she like? Draw or write about that person.

Optional: Ask your parent or guardian, "Think about an interesting neighbor you have had, or someone you've had to sit by. What was he or she like?" Draw or write what he or she tells you.

Beginning Your Group Time

Pick one of the options below to transition the kids into Small Group Time. This will get them thinking by briefly engaging them in an activity or discussion.

OPTION 1: Encouragement Cards

Using paper and colored markers, have your small group make a card of encouragement for your director or pastor. Your group could make one card or individual cards. (Bringing in a store-bought card that everyone can write in would work as well.) Have each child write a reason that he or she appreciates the person the card is for. Deliver the card to your director or pastor at the end of club.

Suggested Transition Statement:

We will meet interesting people in our lives, and God has told us to love each one. When we love someone else, we often show him or her by our actions, like giving that person a card. When you become a believer, God will empower you to love others the way that He loves us.

OPTION 2: Using Start Here

Describe an interesting neighbor you've had. What was he or she like?

Who did your parent descirbe as an interesting neighbor?

Suggested Transition Statement:

We will meet interesting people in our lives, and God has told us to love each one. When we love someone else we often show him or her by our actions. When you become a believer God will empower you to love others the way that He loves us.

OPTION 3: Icebreaker Questions

How do you know that someone cares about you? What does he or she do to show you?

In what ways do you usually show other people that you love them?

Suggested Transition Statement:

We will meet interesting people in our lives, and God has told us to love each one. When we love someone else, we often show him or her by our actions. When you become a believer, God will empower you to love others the way that He loves us.

Lesson Summary

You are commanded to love your neighbor as yourself. Love is from God, and He is our best example of love. When you learn about God's love, your love for Him will grow. Knowing God makes you want to love others. To love people well and unselfishly you need to depend on God and the power of the Holy Spirit. You cannot do it on your own. When you love others, people will know that you are a disciple of Jesus. You won't always have the feeling of love. You may not want to love someone. When that happens, you can trust that God will help you love him or her.

Explore Answers

1. Look up and read John 3:16 and fill in the blanks.
   For God so A loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have B everlasting life.
2. Where is love from?
   God
3. Why do we love others?
   Because God first loved us.
4. How will people know that you are a disciple (follower) of Jesus?
   If you love others
5. Who is a neighbor you need to love from your church?
   Answers will vary.
6. Who is a neighbor you need to love in your family?
   Answers will vary.
7. How can you love your neighbor who isn't easy to love?
   Answers will vary.
8. When do you need to depend on God to love your neighbor?
   ALL THE TIME SOMETIMES NEVER

LESSON 4.1 MEMORY VERSE

Galatians 5:14: *For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."*

Explore

Look up and read your memory verse, Galatians 5:14, in your Bible.

Let's discover how God helps us to love others.

Look up and read John 3:16 in your Bible, and fill in the blanks.

1. For God so _____ A _____ the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have _____ B _____.

God is our best example of love. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for our sins. You will still have consequences for your sin, but you will spend forever in heaven with God if you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior.

When you accept Jesus as your Savior, you will live a life that shows people who God is and how He loves people. When we discover God's grace towards us, we discover His love.

Look up and read 1 John 4:7 in your Bible.

Where is love from? ❷

To love people in the best way, you need to depend on God and His power. You cannot do it on your own.

Look up and read 1 John 4:19 in your Bible.

Why do we love others? ❸

When you learn about God, you will love Him more and more. Knowing God will make you want to love others too!

Look up and read John 13:35 in your Bible.

How will people know that you are a disciple (follower) of Jesus?

❹

Answer Key Included!

REMEMBER ... Some of the kids in your small group come from a home where they are deeply loved and will have a great self-image. There are other kids who don't see anything good in themselves and have a very poor self-image. Love on both types of children and help them all to see how God shows His love to them through His Word.

DISCOVERY OF LOVE 4.1

When you do loving and kind things for others, you are showing the world that you love God.

The Bible tells you to love your neighbor, but your neighbor is not just someone who lives next door. Your neighbor is anyone who you have contact with.

Who is a neighbor you need to love from your church?

❺

Who is a neighbor you need to love in your family?

❻

How can you love your neighbor who isn't easy to love?

❼

When do you need to depend on God to love your neighbor? Circle one.

❽ (ALL THE TIME) SOMETIMES NEVER

You won't always want to love others. You may not want to love someone. When that happens, trust that God will help you love your neighbor.

As you grow in understanding God's love for you, look for opportunities to show love to others!

DEFINITION
NEIGHBOR — anyone you have contact with

Discussion Questions

These questions are just a few that your small group will talk about. Think about your responses to the following questions.

1. **How has God shown His love to you? How can you show that kind of love to someone this week?**
2. **When is it hard to love others? What can you do when it is difficult?**

LEADER TIP ... Each individual person that God created is just that — an individual. In God's infinite creativity and love, He made us each to be unique. That uniqueness is found even in the way we give and receive love. Dr. Gary Chapman says that there are five love languages: words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time, and physical touch.* Can you recognize one of these languages as the primary way that you personally give and receive love? Have you seen a child light up when you have shown love in one of these ways? How can you love the children in your small group better and more intentionally?
*5lovelanguages.com

Notes

Discussion Questions

To create discussion with your group, use the following questions.

THIRD OR FOURTH GRADE

- **How has God shown His love to you? How can you show that kind of love to someone this week?**
- **Who is a neighbor in your life that God wants you to show love to?**
- **What are three practical, realistic things you can do this week to show love to someone else?**

FIFTH OR SIXTH GRADE

- **When you love other people, what kind of impact will that have on the people you love and on the people who see you love?**
- **What kinds of things keep you from loving other people well?**
- **Read Matthew 5:43-44. What does it look like to love your enemies?**

The "Silver/Gold Extra Credit" sections are optional but encouraged and rewarded!

Go Further

Have a group who wants to get into this topic even more?

This fourth unit is designed to take what the kids have been learning and apply that to their lives. What are some practical and realistic ways that your small group can love people in your church this week? Discuss ideas and then make an action plan together. Use the ideas listed below to get you started.

Holding the door open for people instead of playing after service.

Help an elderly person to and/or from his or her car.

Pick up trash and clean up the classroom after club or Sunday school.

Offer to get the pastor or teacher a bottle of water before service.

Surprise your children's ministry staff with treats on Sunday morning.

Silver Answers

❶ Love is ...
Possible answers include: patient, kind, rejoices with the truth, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

❷ Love IS NOT ...
Possible answers include: envy, boast, arrogant, rude, insist on its own way, irritable, resentful, rejoice at wrongdoing.

❸ How does I Corinthians 13:8 begin? Fill in the blanks below.
A **Love / Charity** never **B** **fails / ends** .

❹ Read through the list of what love is. Which one do you need God's help to have?
Answers will vary.

❺ Now read the list of what love is not. Which one do you need God's help to stop doing?
Answers will vary.

Silver Extra Credit

God wants us to understand what it means to really love others. He wants us to know that love is not just something that we say, but love is also seen in what we do, what we say, and in our attitude.

Look up and read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 in your Bible. Then list what the Bible tells you about love in each box below.

Love IS ...
❶
Love is NOT ...
❷

How does 1 Corinthians 13:8 begin? Fill in the blanks below.

❸ **A** _____ never **B** _____ .

Read through the list of what love is. Which one do you need God's help to have?

❹

Now read the list of what love is not. Which one do you need God's help to stop doing?

❺

GO DEEPER ... The law that God gave in the Old Testament was not changed in the New Testament. Loving your neighbor as yourself includes all of God's laws that deal with how we treat others.

These "go" sections are also optional for you and your clubber's personal use.

go reach kids!

Mission: Pray & GO!

DISCOVERING THE GREAT COMMISSION

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

LOCATION _____

We've learned about some other people and how God is at work in their lives. What about you?

Where are you from?

In the space below, draw your house or your street!

Where I live

PRAY

Pray for where you live, that God would bless everyone who lives there and work in their lives.

MISSION: PRAY & GO! COMPLETED

Leader Signature _____ Date _____

Earn awards within Awana GO by completing these Mission: Pray & GO! sections. For more details, see pages 6-7!

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PRAYING TOGETHER ... Create a Prayer Box for your small group. It doesn't need to be fancy, just a box for kids to put their prayer requests in each week. When your group takes time to pray together, have each child take a request, read it, and pray for that person.

Prayer

Date: _____

Name	Request

Make It Stick

Do you need a creative activity to help your group memorize verses? Look here!

Picture the Verse

Have the child write out the verse with the reference. Then have him or her write it again, replacing some of the words with pictures or symbols. This could be done on a large poster board to include the whole group. Have them read the verse three times and then try to recite the verse without looking.

Notes

DON'T FORGET ... Every child needs at least one adult to love him or her unconditionally. You have the opportunity to demonstrate love that isn't dependent on performance or behavior. In the security of your love and acceptance, the kids in your small group will get a picture of God's love for each of them.

4.1 DISCOVERY OF LOVE

Memorize

Galatians 5:14

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Scripture memorization is key! Your clubber should be able to recite these verses from memory with a maximum of 2 helps from their leader!

Gold Extra Credit

Matthew 5:43-44

Ye have heard that it hath been said, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy." But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

John 13:35

By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Philippians 1:9

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment.

1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

REMEMBER ... Children are aware if you are passionately committed to serving in Awana. They are also aware if you are just trying to get through the night. If you are feeling worn down and discouraged, pray that God would change your heart and give you His energy and passion to serve.

DISCOVERY OF LOVE 4.1

SECTION 4.1 COMPLETED

Leader Signature | Date

EXTRA CREDIT COMPLETED

Leader Initials (SILVER) | Date | Leader Initials (GOLD) | Date

Sign and date here when your clubber successfully completes their work!

How'd It Go?

Reflections:

What do you need to do the same?

What do you need to do differently?

Thank You

You always remind me to pray about my problems and think about what God would want me to do. I don't always act like I appreciate it, but I do.

— 5th-Grader