

# Lesson 11

## Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Bible Lesson:** Mark 10:13-16, Luke 18:15-17

**Memory Verse:** “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” *Luke 19:10*

### TEACHER PREPARATION

#### Prepare to Teach:

- ◆ that Jesus loves children
- ◆ that Jesus wants to bless children
- ◆ that Jesus came to save children - He wants children to believe in Him

#### Prepare Materials:

- ◆ several hearts with “Jesus Loves Me”
- ◆ children’s t-shirts (see Art Center for details)

- ◆ decor for t-shirts (see Art Center for details)
- ◆ pictures of today’s lesson and of the children in your class
- ◆ pictures of your students (see Activity 3 for details)
- ◆ 11”x16” poster board, 1 per child
- ◆ tempera paint
- ◆ paintbrushes
- ◆ Jesus Loves Me frame, 1 per child
- ◆ decorations for frames
- ◆ magnetic strips

### BIBLE BACKGROUND

*To be added.*

### BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

#### Welcome with Love

Greet the children with a smile, and thank them for being in class today. Tell them that Jesus loves them and is happy that they want to learn more about Him. They learn more about Him by reading the Bible and by going to church and Sunday school. Invite the children to sit on the floor in the corner of the room. Ask the children to name someone they love and to tell how they show their love for that person.

Give an example of someone you love and tell how you show that person your love. Tell the children that Jesus is going to show that He loves children in today’s story.

#### Use a Learning Center

##### REVIEW CENTER

**ASK** the children some questions from previous lessons. Use the objects and pictures in the room for visual references. Recite Bible verses from other lessons.

##### THINKING CENTER - HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU’RE LOVED?

Prior to class, cut out several medium-sized hearts. Write “Jesus Loves You” on one side of the heart.

With the children still sitting on the floor, pick

up one of the hearts and ask the children what a heart usually symbolizes. Ask the children how they know they are loved. As they name something, write it on a heart. Give the heart to the one who named it. Continue until everyone has at least one heart.

Ask the children how it feels to be loved and what it would be like to not be loved. Ask the children who loves them the most. The answer sought is Jesus. Discuss how Jesus loves them and why. Have the children turn their hearts to the “Jesus Loves You” side. Have the children point to the words and read the words to them.

Sing “Jesus Loves Me” p.42 Little Ones Sing Praise.

### **ART CENTER - JESUS LOVES ME**

Give each child a t-shirt with the words “Jesus Loves Me” written on the front. (You can use

white or colored t-shirts. Write on the fabric using fabric paint and stencils, outlining the letters with puffy paint or using letter iron-on decals found in fabric or craft stores. You want the letters to be seen clearly.)

Have the children add more decorations to their t-shirts. (You may want to find a helper to help with this activity depending on the number and ages of the children.) Let them use fabric paint, puffy paint, or iron-on decals. (You could also include decals of Christian symbols, such as a cross, fish, Bible, or dove. If none are available, cut some from iron-on patch material.)

You and your assistant should help the children keep their t-shirts as neat as possible.

Ask the children if they know what is written on their t-shirts. Tell the children that they will hear about Jesus’ love for them and for all children in today’s lesson.

## **TEACHING TODAY’S BIBLE LESSON**

### **Sing the Message**

Sing some of the following songs:

“Jesus Loves the Little Children” p.362 Ambassador Hymnal or p.94 Little Ones Sing Praise.

“Praise Him, Praise Him, All You Little Children” p.384 Ambassador Hymnal.

“Jesus Loves Even Me” p.531 Ambassador Hymnal.

“Jesus Loves the Little Ones Like Me” p.41 Little Ones Sing Praise.

“Oh, How I Love Jesus” p.528 Ambassador Hymnal.

“For God So Loved the World” p.69 Salvation Songs Favorites.

“The B-I-B-L-E” p.48 Little Ones Sing Praise.

### **Pray the Message**

- ◆ Thank God for each child in Sunday school by name.
- ◆ Thank God for loving us so much that He sent Jesus, His Son, to be our Savior.
- ◆ Thank Jesus for loving each child in the room.
- ◆ Thank Jesus for the Bible and for giving us

faith to believe in Him.

- ◆ Thank Jesus for the gift of eternal life.
- ◆ Pray for open hearts and minds to listen to His Word.

### **Learn the New Words**

You can either introduce these words before reading the Bible lesson and/or highlight them as the lesson is read. Ask and explain the meaning as you come to them in the lesson.

**bless** call down God’s favor upon someone

### **Introduce the Message**

**OPEN** your Bible to the lesson text. It is important that the children know the lessons are true and that they come from the Bible.

Ask the children to lift up their paper hearts and ask them to name someone who loves them. Ask them if Jesus loves them. Tell the children to listen closely to the story to find out how Jesus showed His love for children. Remind them that Jesus loves them too.

**Read/Tell the Message**

*See student leaflet.*

**Reinforce the Message**

**ASK** some of the following questions:

- ◆ Did Jesus like to teach people about God? (yes)
- ◆ What did mothers and fathers bring to Jesus? (their children)

- ◆ What did Jesus' disciples tell the mothers and fathers? (Jesus is too busy for children. Take them away.)
- ◆ Did Jesus agree with the disciples? (no)
- ◆ What did Jesus say to the disciples and the mothers and fathers? (Let the children come to me. I love children.)
- ◆ What did Jesus do to the children when they came to Him? (He took the children in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.)
- ◆ Does Jesus love you? (yes!)

**APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON****Review the Memory Verse**

**ADD** pictures of the story of "Jesus Loves the Little Children" next to the memory verse on the wall. If you have photographs of the children left from today's activities, put these up also.

**POINT** to the verse and the pictures and ask the children: Who came to save the lost? What does it mean to be lost?

Say the Bible verse with the children. Ask them from what the lost are saved, and what gift believers who are saved receive.

**RECITE** the verse together.

**Do the Activities Together****ACTIVITY 1 - LEAFLET – "Let the Children Come to Me"**

You will need the pictures that were taken in last week's class. If you do not have pictures available, the children can simply draw a picture of themselves and their friends with Jesus.

Give the children their leaflets. Have them turn to the activity page. Ask them what they see. Give each child a picture of himself or herself that was taken last week. Instruct the children to glue or tape their picture next to Jesus. Also have them glue or tape pictures of their classmates next to Jesus. Depending on class size, have several pictures of each child so that the children can use their classmates in their leaflets. If the class is large, you may

have to limit it to one or two classmates for each child to include in the leaflet. If the class is small, you may be able to use all the classmates in each child's leaflet. To get duplicate copies of the pictures, you can copy the original using a good copier, take multiple pictures and get doubles, or get the number of reprints needed.

Talk with the children about how Jesus showed His love for the children. Emphasize that Jesus loves us very much. Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" or "Jesus Loves Me" as you work on this project. Also review the memory verse.

**ACTIVITY 2 - ART ACTIVITY - Jesus Loves Me**

Give each child a 11"x16" piece of heavy paper or poster board with the memory verse written at the bottom of the paper. Across the top in large letters write the words, "Jesus Loves Me." Under these words in smaller print, write one of the Bible references from today's lesson. Be sure to leave room for a set of children's handprints, a child's name, and the date.

Using tempera paint, let the children add their handprints to the paper with the 11"x16" paper. The children can choose which color to use for their handprints. Allow the prints to dry while the children wash their hands.

Near the painted handprints, let the children write their names with a marker or crayon, helping as needed. Add the date under each name.

## Lesson 11

## Jesus Loves the Little Children

Recite the memory verse on the paper. Tell the children that Jesus loves them just as He loved the children in today's lesson. They are children of God. They are very special to God and to you.

Have the children take their handprints home. Encourage them to save them so that when they are older they can look at their handprints and be reminded that Jesus loved them even when they were children.

### **ACTIVITY 3 - ART ACTIVITY – Picture Frame**

You will need the photographs taken in last week's class for this activity. Depending on the size of your photographs, cut a frame to the appropriate size for each child's photograph. A heavier paper such as poster board would work best. Write the words, "Jesus Loves Me" around the frame. Use a permanent marker, stencils, or letter stickers. This should be done before class time.

Instruct the children to decorate their frames by coloring or adding stickers. Glitter pencils or puffy paint could also be used.

After decorating, add the children's pictures to their frames. (If you have new or visiting children, allow them to do the project and have them add their picture at home.) Make sure the decorations are dry first so they don't smear or get on the pictures. Adhere the pictures using tape or a picture safe adhesive. Put a large magnetic strip on the back of the frame, so that the children can hang it on the refrigerator.

Ask the children how they know Jesus loves them. Tell them to always remember that He loves them, and this picture can remind them of Jesus' love for them.

Sing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" p.41  
Little Ones Sing Praise.

## CLOSING THE CLASS HOUR

### **Teach and Sing**

**SING** all four verses to the theme hymn, "I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus." Ask the children to name some of the things Jesus does for us that are mentioned in the hymn.

**SING** any of the other songs found in the lesson. Focus on the songs that tell of Jesus' love for us.

### **Memory Verse Review**

**RECITE** the memory verse again before closing prayer. The children should know the verse fairly well, so have them say it by themselves. You may have to help them with the reference, which should always be included.

**ASK** the children who came to save the lost, and what does lost mean in this verse.

**SING** "For God So Loved the World" p.69  
Salvation Songs Favorites.

### **Pray Together**

Have the children prepare for prayer. Let the children name someone they love and ask them if they want to thank Jesus for that person. Allow them to pray if they are comfortable with the idea. Thank Jesus for loving the children. Thank Jesus for loving (name each child.) Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Thank Jesus for the forgiveness of sin and the gift of eternal life. Thank Jesus for His Word, the Bible, and the lessons learned from it. Ask for blessings for the week to come.