

A New Commandment

Theme

Love one another as Jesus loved you.

Object

Props and a partition

Scripture

John 13:31-35

Get Ready: Gather props for roles that kids will be able to identify, such as an artist, a firefighter, a fisherman, a musician, and a teacher. If you don't have a partition, hang a bed sheet that you can walk behind to switch roles.

Do This:

SAY: I've prepared a fun game for us to play today. It's a guessing game. Here's how we play. I'll put on a costume and pretend to have a specific role or job, and then you'll have to guess who I am. Ready?

Choose a role and then perform actions the person might perform if they were in that role. Take props from behind the partition to add to your persona until the kids guess who you are.

Once the kids have guessed correctly, ask them how they knew who you were.

Let kids take turns repeating the same process with new roles, while the other children guess who they are. Allow them to use the props for other roles they think of,

as well.

This game makes me think of our Bible passage for today. Jesus was teaching His friends, the disciples. He was getting ready to go to heaven and He wanted them to be ready, too. He told them, "You can't go where I'm going. But when I leave, I want you to love others as I have loved you. Then they'll know you're My disciples."

Like in our game, you knew I was a [remind children of a role you played] because I [remind children of the actions you did and what you looked like].

Jesus says when we love others like He loved others, they'll know we're His friends. Would you like people to know you're Jesus' friend? We'll think more about that today.

PRAY: God, we want others to know we're Jesus' friends. Help us to love others like Jesus loved. In Jesus' name, amen.

Interactive Group Activities
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

Sermon Title: "A New Commandment"

Scripture Reading: John 13:34-35

MUSICAL LOVE CHAIRS: When the music stops, the one without a chair and still standing will simply tell a part of the Bible verse or a rule to follow. Then the music begins again... no one is ever out of the game.

BIBLE VERSE BALLOONS: Before the class begins, the teacher will put one word from the Bible verse on slips of paper — LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. Roll the pieces of paper up and slip inside a balloon and have all 8 balloons blown up before class. Children will POP their balloon and together as a class they can piece together the Bible verse and then say the verse altogether.

LOVE RUN: Before class time, the teacher will hide paper hearts around the room with LOVE quotes them. The quotes should be sayings such as, JESUS LOVES ME, LOVE ONE ANOTHER, JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN, LOVE AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. To begin the game, the teacher will say something like "All children wearing something RED, run and find a heart and bring it back to your circle" or "Children who have shoe strings, run and find a heart." The game continues until all the hearts have been found. Let children tape their hearts to a large poster and begin discussing today's lesson and what each heart says and how it applies to each child with examples from the children!

HEART BOOKMARKER: Let each child draw and cut out a medium size heart out of construction paper. Write today's Bible verse or words from today's lesson and decorate with stickers and a ribbon at the top. Stick in their Bibles after finding today's Bible verse in their own Bibles (John 13:34)

PAPER PLATE LOVE HEARTS: Each child can be given a paper plate to lightly color and then draw or glue hearts around the edges of the paper plate. Write today's Bible verse in the middle section of the paper plate.

LOVE can be drawn in the middle of each heart around the outer edge of the plate, making sure to use a different bright colored marker each time.

HEART PUPPETS: Children can tape together 2 matching hearts with enough room at the bottom of the heart to slip their hands or a couple of fingers into the heart to make a heart puppet! One heart can be the JESUS puppet and the other hearts can be the disciples. Have fun telling the story together and then all the heart puppets can say the Bible Verse together at the end.

PIN THE LOVE ON THE HEART: Put a large heart-shaped poster on the wall. Blindfold the children as they come to the poster and try to tape or pin the word LOVE on the heart. Discuss what it means to follow Jesus and have his love 'in our hearts'!

FOLLOW "LOVE" GAME: Children will line up and the leader will begin to walk with others following, until the teacher blows a whistle or calls out LOVE, etc. Everyone must stop and the leader will say, "I am a follower of Jesus" or will recite the Bible verse. Then that 'leader' will go to the end of the line and a new leader will begin the walk until the whistle blows again. If possible, let each child have an opportunity to be the leader, even if two lines have to be formed to do the exact same thing.

Song: "Love One Another" by Charles Kirkpatrick

Words and Music (pdf)



MP3 Piano Accompaniment - Right click and save to your computer.

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About Carol Williams

Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you

will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles the clown.

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A New Commandment

"Love one another as I have loved you."



"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
W	L	N	M	F	Q	K	U	O	Y	E	R	G	J	X	P	H	S	I	B	Z	T	A	C	D	V

1. 7-3-9-1 _____
2. 13-19-26-11 _____
3. 24-9-4-4-23-3-25 _____
4. 23-3-9-22-17-11-12 _____
5. 13-2-9-12-19-5-10 _____
6. 2-9-26-11 _____
7. 25-19-18-24-19-16-2-11-18 _____
8. 17-19-4-18-11-2-5 _____

glorify himself	command give	love another	know disciples
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have loved you."



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Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.

1.

5.

2.

6.

3.

7.

4.

8.

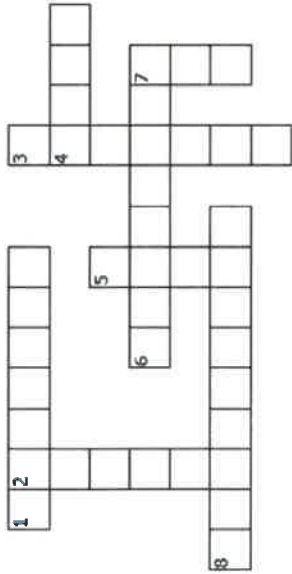
himself
love

give
know

command
disciples

another
glorify

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- An order or a rule given with authority
- People aside from oneself
- To give praise and honour to God or a person
- To have feelings of compassion and concern for another person
- Boys and girls between birth and puberty
- Those who follow the teachings of Jesus

DOWN

- Time
- Children
- Others
- Love

GLORIFY	COMMAND	TIME	OTHERS
NEW	DISCIPLES	CHILDREN	LOVE



Love
One Another

Children's Worship Bulletin

A New Commandment

John 13:31-35

Word Search

D W A J E W S C C N T O I F C
 F L N P I P F L O O K O A A D
 X O E Y J P N R X S J C L Y Q
 K N M E W H E N J Y T H P D E
 I G C X I H A X F G K N O W J
 B E M E T P J I B Q T B R B E
 D R V O P A R C H I L D R E N
 E I N V Z O V C N E T T E N Y
 G A N T L H I E O O J L B B L
 B E P G P O M Q N M Z Z T D I
 G V L X Y C V G O W M E Q E T
 I V N A J E S U S I M A V V T
 I Q C R H X G L L D P O N P L
 S Q T O D I S C I P L E S D E
 Q H N J O E G Y J G V J C H F

DISCIPLES	LOOK	CHILDREN	GLORIFY	LOVE
COMMAND	LITTLE	MEN	JEWES	GIVE
ANOTHER	JESUS	LONGER	TOLD	KNOW

Your Church Name Here
Anytown, Anywhere

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Dot to Dot

Connect the dots to complete the picture.

d
f
g
h
i
j
k
l
m
n

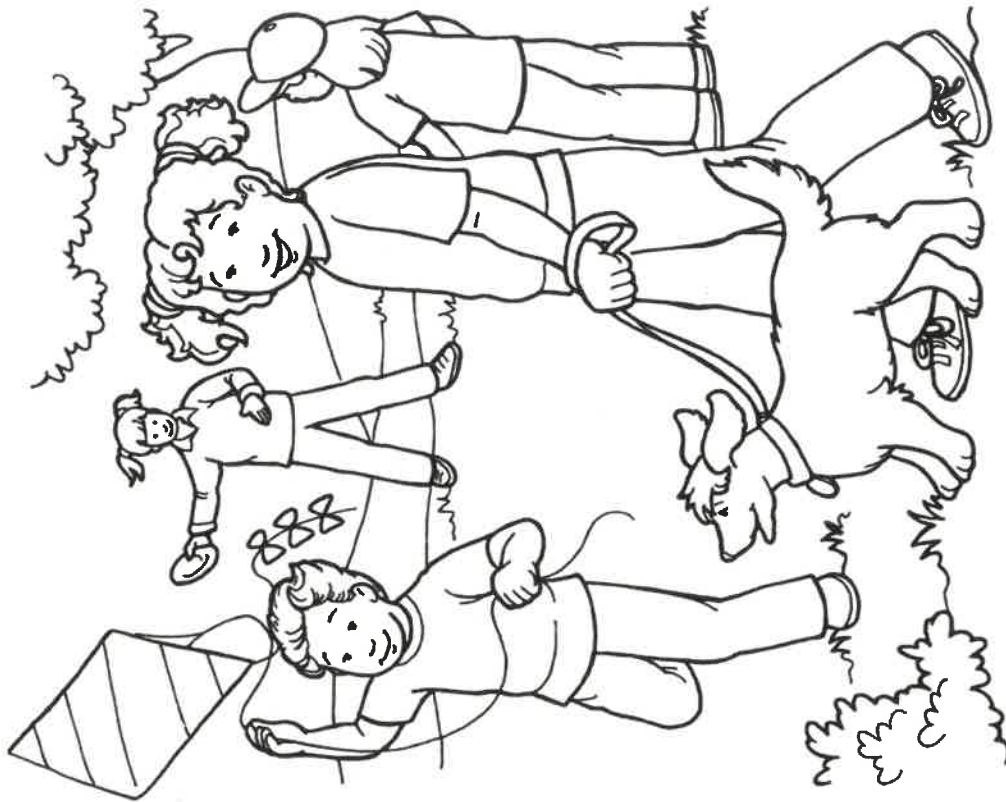


"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
John 13:34 (NIV)

b
c
e
p
q



Color Me!



Love one another as I have loved you.

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Love one another as I have loved you.

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