

SYMBOLS OF LOVE

Children color different symbols of love, the greatest being the cross of Jesus.

TOPICS:

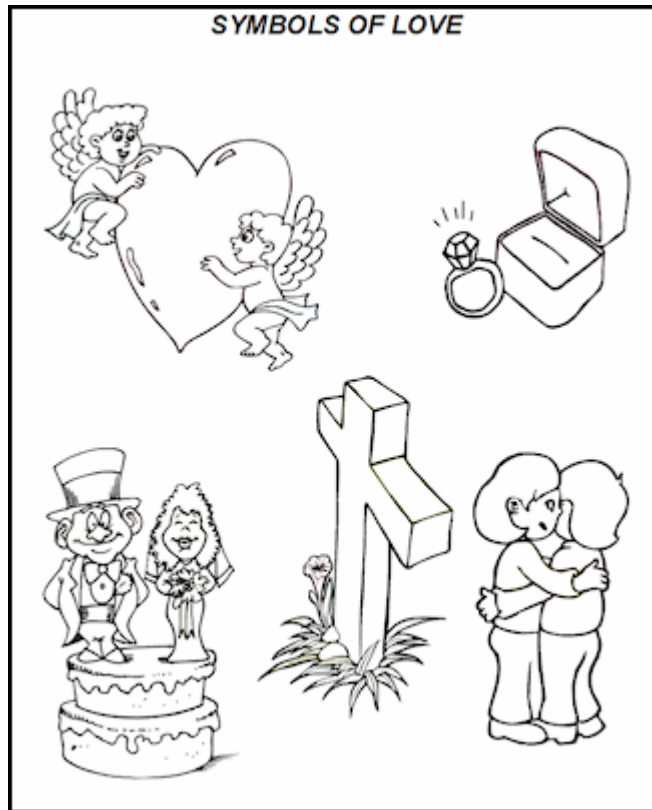
Cross, Love

MATERIALS:

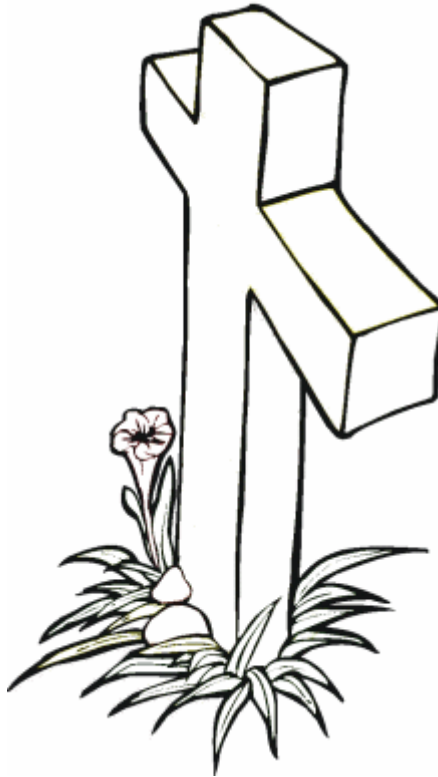
Coloring page [ATTACHED]
Crayons or colored markers

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



SYMBOLS OF LOVE



LOVE CHASE

God so loved the world, He sent His only son. We can run, but can't escape God's love.

TOPICS:

Love, God's Love, Jesus

MATERIALS:

Cape or robe for Jesus (optional)



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

PREPARATION:

Before playing this game, put away anything that may cause tripping or injury, as the children will be running to different places in the room.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Select one child to be Jesus. All of the other children are "Love Bandits." The child who is Jesus will pick a color, for example blue, and say "Jesus loves Blue." All of the "Love Bandits" will quickly find something in the room that is blue, run to it and touch it with their hands. Meanwhile, Jesus will try to capture one of the Love Bandits before they can touch the color.

When Jesus captures a "Love Bandit," they become Jesus and the play continues. To avoid the same children being caught over and over, you can have those captured help Jesus. This way it is easier to capture the faster children.

Play until everyone has a chance to be Jesus, or longer if time permits and the children continue to have fun. Then gather them in a circle on the floor and talk about God's love.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

There is a favorite verse in the Bible, John 3:16. It goes, "For God so loved the world, He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him will have everlasting life."

This verse tells us how much God loves us. It also tells us how much Jesus loves us. Jesus gave up His life because He loves us so much. Can you imagine that? How hard would that be to die for someone you love? Jesus did just that, and no matter how hard we might try to hide, or run away from Jesus, His love for us is always there. We can be like Jesus when we love others as much as we can.

JESUS LOVES ME THIS MUCH

A simple craft to help children remember how much Jesus loves them.

TOPICS:

Easter, God's Love, Jesus, Valentine's Day

MATERIALS:

Wooden ice cream spoons
Medium to heavy card stock
Paper hearts [ATTACHED]
Glue stick
Craft sticks (optional)



DURATION:

Approximately 15 minutes

PREPARATION:

Before class, gather plenty of wooden ice cream spoons (a local dairy may be willing to help) or use craft sticks. Print the paper hearts on medium or heavy card stock.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

During class, give the children one heart to cut out, and two wooden ice cream spoons. After cutting out the heart, have them glue it on top of two spoons as shown in the example above.

If time permits, you can also punch a small hole on the top of the heart, and attach a ribbon or yard so the craft can be hung.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

There is a saying from long ago about how much Jesus loves us. It goes like this:

*I asked Jesus how much he loved me,
He answered, "This much"
Then he stretched out his arms and died for me.*

God loves us so very much. He wants us to be with Him forever. However, sometimes we disobey Him and do what is wrong. This separates us from God and upsets Him. So, God decided to help us. Do you know what God did? He sent His son Jesus to die in our place. Jesus loved us so much He died on a cross, with His arms stretched wide. That is how much He loves us.

Jesus Loves Me This Much



Sample of wooden ice cream spoons



Sample of finished craft

