

Session Six: Love God with All Your Strength



Today's Point: We are to love God with all our strength.

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:5

CSB: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

KJV: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. Deuteronomy 6:5

Today's Bible Skill:

- Review Deuteronomy 6:5
- Locate Deuteronomy 6:5
- Review names of the books in the Law and History divisions.

Bible Truth Activity:

Activity: Have kids participate in some strength activities: push-ups, arm wrestle, sit-ups, baseball swings

Materials:

Index Cards

Paper bag

Preparation:

Print push-ups, arm wrestle, sit-ups, baseball swings on an index card.

Put index cards in paper bag.

Instructions:

SAY: Who thinks they are strong? What makes you strong? (Most kids will mention physical strength.)

SAY: Let's see how strong you are. Divide kids into groups of 4-5. Instruct teams to draw a strength activity from the bag. As a group they will lead the entire group in the strength activity.

After strength activities ask kids if they are as strong as they thought they were.

SAY: Strength is more than muscles. Strength is the ability to accomplish something. We see someone's strength by what they can do. Strength is an action.

Let's find Deuteronomy 6:5 in our Bibles. When you find it put your finger on the verse.

Offer help if needed. Read the verse aloud together.

READ Deuteronomy 6:5 from your Bible. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

SAY: Last week we talked about the fact that the Bible says that we should love God – with ALL of our heart. It is okay to love other people and other things because God has given us so much to love. But he wants us to love him first and the most.

SAY: Today we are going to look at what it means to love God with all our strength. If strength is an outward action, it means God wants us to show we love him by the things that we do.

ASK: What are some actions you can take that show you love God? (Allow kids time to respond)

Actions:

1. Keep God's Commandments.

Turn to John 14:15 and read verse: If you love me you will keep my commands.

SAY: When we love God with all our strength, we obey him. God loves obedience. What are some commands God wants us to obey?

Love God

Love your neighbors

Love yourself

Obey your parents

Be kind to another

Do not steal

Do not lie

When we keep God's commands, we are showing that we love him.

2. Love your neighbor as yourself.

Turn to Mark 12:31 and read verse: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is, Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other command than these.

SAY: To love God with all our strength we must love people with your actions - be a friend, speak kindly to people, treat people fairly, help people when they have a need, tell people about Jesus.

When our actions show we love people – they also show that we love God.

In this verse we also see that part of the second command is loving yourself. You can't love God with all our strength if you don't take the actions necessary to love yourself.

ASK: What actions show you love yourself? (Allow a couple kids to respond)

List some actions: exercise, eat right, spend time with God, make good choices in friends.

SAY: When you love yourself this way, you love God because he created you and you are his most treasured possession.

To love God completely you must love him with your heart, your soul, and your strength. Your entire life – your attitudes, your words, your actions, must focus on loving God.

Pray: Thank God for loving us and ask him to help kids love him with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Bible Verse Activity: Verse in Motion

Materials:

Poster board

Preparation:

Print Deuteronomy 6:5 on poster board

Instructions:

Ask for a volunteer to read Bible verse aloud from poster. Explain that we are going to work on memorizing this verse.

Divide kids into groups of 2-3

Instruct teams that they are to come up with motions for the verse. Be ready to share them with the group.

Give teams time to develop motions.

Bring groups together. Allow teams to demonstrate motions for verse. Have kids repeat motions as they say Deuteronomy 6:5

After all groups have presented their motions, invite kids to say Deuteronomy 6:5 together for memory.

Bible Skills Activity: Three Strikes**Materials:**

Index Cards – 20 per set (set needed for every group of 4-5 kids)

Markers

Small paper bags (one for each group)

Cardstock – 2 per group

Preparation:

Write the names of the books of the Bible in the Law and History Divisions on index cards – one book per index card (set for each group of 4-5 kids)

Write an X on 3 separate cards (set for each group of 4-5 kids)

Place cards in a small paper bag (one for each group)

Print Law Division on one cardstock

Print History Division on one cardstock

Instructions:

Divide kids into groups of 4-5.

Review: The first two divisions in the Old Testament are Law and History. The division of Law has 5 books, and the division of History has 12 books.

Explain that the names of the 17 books in the Law and History divisions are in each bag, along with some strike cards marked with an X.

The goal of this challenge is to choose all the cards with the name of a Book from the bag without choosing all 3 strikes.

When a card is chosen it is placed on the correct division sign.

Choose volunteers to select a card from the bag, decide in which division the book is found, and place the card on the correct division sign. When all cards are chosen, place cards in order as they appear in the Bible.

If all 3 Xs are chosen before all book cards, lead kids to pour the remaining cards out and place them in the correct division.

Repeat the Books of the Bible in order all together.