

MINI-BIBLE STUDIES

by Dana Roberts

UNDERSTANDING SALVATION

Good News (Luke 4:16-44)

God sent Jesus to do a very special work: fulfill His Word from the Holy Scroll. (vv18-19) The people marveled at Jesus when he began to express that He came to fulfill these words. Yet, it also angered people to the point of wanting to kill Jesus. They chased Him to the top of a hill planning to throw Him over the edge. But, Jesus simply passed through the crowd of people and went away, for His work on earth was not yet complete. Jesus went on to free people from demons and heal others from sickness. News about His power spread throughout the land and mobs of people tried to prevent Jesus from leaving their area. However, Jesus reminded them, “I must proclaim the good news about the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because I was sent for this purpose.” (Luke 4:43) Did you know that “gospel” means “good news”? It gives us the very answer we need when asking *how* am I saved from my sins. Jesus died of all mankind’s sins, rose from the dead three days later, and made a way for everyone who believes in Him to be forgiven, ensuring their place in heaven. Good news indeed!

Jesus Cleanses (Luke 17:11-19)

The stories of Jesus’ marvelous healings spread throughout the region. During His travels, He came upon ten men who were waiting for Jesus outside their city. They had contracted a terrible skin disease and were required to leave their homes and families. When anyone would come near them they were to cry out, “Unclean, Unclean!” However, when they saw Jesus, they cried out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” (Luke 17:13) The only response Jesus had for them was, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” (v14) You see, the priests were the only people who were able to declare a person healed and clean. While on the way to the priests, the men were healed! Out of the ten men, only one returned to thank Jesus! He fell at Jesus’ feet with thankfulness and gave glory to God with a loud voice. This one man was a Samaritan. Samaritans and Jews did not like each other. Looking down at the Samaritan, Jesus asked, “Were not 10 cleansed? Where are the nine? Didn’t any (Jews) return to give glory to God except this foreigner?... Get up and go on your way. **Your faith has made you well.**” (vv17-19) The Samaritan of this story represents you and me, Gentiles. You and I might not have a terrible skin dis-

ease, but we have a disease of the heart. Sin lingers inside of us and Jesus is the Only One who can cleanse our hearts. Jesus praised the Samaritan for his faith. Jesus waits to do the same for us. When He died on the cross, He made a way for our sins to be removed and give us a new, clean heart. All we are required to do is believe in Him!

New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2)

The Apostle Paul wrote letters to a group of people called the Corinthians. Not everyone who had read Paul's letters were Christians, however. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul was inspired to teach about Jesus. Just like today, not everyone who reads the Bible is a Christian, but when they read and study Second Corinthians, we pray that they will become Christ-followers. So, Paul wrote about Jesus' dying and rising again, helping his reader understand that these actions were part of God's plan to make believers into "new creations." He writes, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come." (2 Corinthians 5:17) He goes on to say that believers are "ambassadors for Christ." (v20) This means that we are God's messengers and He has given us the responsibility to speak the good news (gospel) to others. Did you know that an amazing change takes place on your inside when you believe in Jesus? You still look the same on the outside, but your inside (your heart or inner being) looks a whole lot different! Paul said the old is gone and the new has come. Every person starts out as a sinner (the old person/old heart) who does whatever he wants to do and acts however he wants to act. This is living a life full of sin. When we understand that Jesus is the Only One who can free us from that life of sin, we come before the Lord in repentance and confess our sins to Him. When you and I accept Jesus as the One who can free us from a life of sin, He forgives us and makes us alive on the inside as a "new creation" (the new person/new heart). We want to live for God in our newness because we love Jesus for giving us a new heart!

Our kids need to know that they are sinners and need Jesus, their Savior. Having discussions with your kids about the gospel can not wait. And, it's never too late! "Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

LIVING FOR ETERNITY

Treasure in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-24,33)

Jesus talked often about treasure and money because He knew that we are a forgetful people. When we focus on treasure/money, we forget about God! The treasures we collect here on earth will only become moth eaten, rust destroyed, or stolen by thieves. But, the treasures that we collect for heaven will never be subject to moths or rust or thieves. Jesus says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (v21) If Jesus has given us a new heart (learned above), then we want to be focusing on eternal, heavenly treasures! Heavenly treasure are those that God gives us in heaven for obeying Him while we live here on earth. He is storing them for us. In heaven there is nothing to destroy that treasure - it will last forever! Jesus also said, “No one can serve two masters...” (v24) We can not be devoted to both God and money. Now, Jesus isn’t saying that money is bad. But we don’t need money in heaven! God owns everything! He will provide for our daily needs. We, however, have a bigger need: the need to be sure to live with Jesus for all eternity. God gave us the free gift of His Son, Jesus, so that we could have our biggest need cared for. By accepting Jesus as our Savior, we are collecting our greatest heavenly treasure! Seek first His kingdom and righteousness, and all earthly things will be provided.

Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:31-46)

When Jesus taught by parables, such as these, He was telling a story about what the kingdom of heaven is like. Did you know that Jesus was fulfilling a prophecy of old by speaking in parables? That’s what verse 35 tells us, “I will open my mouth in parables; I will declare things kept in secret from the foundation of the world.” Jesus told two parables about hidden treasure to explain how precious or valuable God’s kingdom really is. A man found something mysterious one day in a field. Upon a closer look, he discovered it was a hidden treasure! He reburied the treasure and must have assumed that the field had an owner. The man sold **all** his own possessions so that he could buy the field (with the hidden treasure) from its owner. And the treasure became his! Another man was a merchant (a trader or buyer) in search of fine pearls. One day he found a pearl that was so valuable the Bible says it was “priceless.” This man went and sold everything he had so that he could buy the precious pearl. These parables are all about the “hidden treasure” of Jesus! He wants us to know that nothing in this world is more valuable than Him. We need to be willing to give up everything of this world to follow Him into eternity.

Confess and Believe (Romans 10:9-13)

The writer of Romans, the Apostle Paul, was writing to tell his reader that they **must** confess and believe, then, they will be saved. It doesn't matter a person's hair color or skin color or neighborhood/house they live in or car they drive/ride in. Paul was telling his reader that Jesus came to save all mankind and all that is required to be saved is to **confess and believe**. Did you know that this message is true for us too? God's Word is the same today as it was when Paul first wrote it. God is saying that when **we** confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and when **we** believe with all of our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, then we **will be** saved! We are saved from our sin by fully trusting in Jesus and the work He completed on the cross. In no way can we be good enough or work our way to heaven. So remember, only Jesus did the work, and offers us the free gift of salvation. Our responsibility is to accept His gift by doing these two things: confess out loud (with our mouth) that Jesus is Lord, and believe with all our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. Be assured, when you do this, you will be saved (salvation)! "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (v13) It's that easy. And then, the Holy Spirit is given to us (lives within us) and He helps us talk to others about Jesus so that they, too, can accept the free gift, be saved, and be given a new heart. But, think about Jesus for just a moment: do you think going to the cross was easy for Him? He gave up a glorious place in heaven, was beat up by the people He came to save, and He died a pretty terrible death on the cross. None of that could have been easy. Thank goodness that the story of Jesus doesn't end with Him dying. For a great thing happened just three days later. God raised Him from the dead! Hallelujah! Jesus was victorious over sin and death. And, He offers us that same victory. My friend, all you are required to do is **confess and believe**.

Our kids need to know that their greatest treasure isn't buried in the backyard or the farm field. Their greatest treasure is Jesus! And, He isn't a hidden treasure. He is fully revealed in the Word of God and waiting for your child to receive Him. Our kids must believe in this Great Treasure, and know that He is preparing a room for them in eternity if they will only accept Him as their Lord and Savior.

LIVING LIKE CHRIST

Holy Spirit is Promised (John 14)

Jesus wanted to teach his disciples how to live out what He taught them once He was back in heaven. He wanted to encourage and comfort them while He was still with them, but also promised to have the Holy Spirit sent to guide them after He ascended back to the Father. Jesus says, “Do not be troubled. Believe in God and believe in Me.” (v1) Did you know that this is the same thing that Jesus tells us, His faithful followers? He then told his disciples He was going to prepare a place in heaven so that when He returned to receive them back to himself, there would be a place ready for them. Jesus knew that His teachings were hard for His disciples to understand, so He comforted them by promising to have the Father send them a helper, a counselor: The Holy Spirit. (v16, 26) The Father also sends the Holy Spirit to us (and into us) when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit is the assurance we have to help us live like Christ and the assurance that Christ will come back for us.

New Believers (Acts 2:36-47)

After Jesus ascended back to Heaven, the disciples knew they needed to wait for the Holy Spirit to be sent to them from the Father. Can you imagine their excitement? And true to His Word, Jesus did have the Holy Spirit sent to the disciples! The Holy Spirit filled the disciple, Peter, and he spoke to a whole crowd of people, sharing the gospel of Jesus. Realizing they had sinned, the crowd asked Peter, “What shall we do?” (v37) Peter said, “Repent, and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” (v38) That very day 3,000 people believed the good news of the gospel! Those people formed the very first Christ-following church. Those new believers became like a new family. They shared everything they had and gathered together to eat and have worship service. Their worship for God/Jesus and their love for one another helped others around them become Christ-followers too. Isn't it amazing how the power of the Holy Spirit changed people's hearts and helped them live and grow more like Christ? When we believe, we are changed by God's Spirit, and we want to live each day to honor Jesus, Our Savior.

Put Off Old; Put On New(Ephesians 4:1-6, 17-32; 5:1-2)

The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to a group of people called the Ephesians. He wanted to remind them of everything God had done for them and to live a life that honored Christ. He encouraged his reader to live like people who are saved by Christ. He then lists ways to actually put into action “living like Christ.” This list was extremely different from the way he describes how non-believers live. Non-believers always live in a selfish manner, but believers live in a Christ-honoring manner. Paul says that once people are changed by Christ (have a new heart/inner being), they are to “put off” the old (non Christ-like) way of living and “put on” the new (Christ-like) way of living. The “old self” was the sinful life, with wrong thoughts and actions. But, now, with the “new self,” they had the ability to live righteous lives. (4:22-24) Did you know that this letter (Paul’s letter to the Ephesians) is God’s Word to us too? God wants us to “put off” the old self and “put on” the new self because Jesus has given us a new heart so that we can live more like Him! Think about it: when you have an old, worn out sweatshirt, do you put a new one on top of it? No, of course not. You take the old one off so that you can put the new one on! Paul encouraged his reader, the Ephesians (and us) to always remember the gospel. Be imitators of God, and walk in love, just as Jesus loved us by forgiving us of all our sins. Day by day, moment by moment, as we remember that Jesus forgave us, we are motivated to “put off” the old selfish, sinful person, and “put on” the new Christ-honoring, Holy Spirit filled person.

Having a discussion with your kids about the Holy Spirit and how we truly have the ability to live like Christ is essential. The point of this life is to glorify and honor God. Kids must come to realize that’s why we do what we do once we come Christ-followers. And, with the help of the Holy Spirit and practicing the biblical principle of “put off/put on,” we are able to make God honoring decisions moment by moment, day by day, year by year until we are called Home or the Lord returns!

WORLD EVENTS/SOCIAL PRESSURES

Spirit versus Flesh (Galatians 5:16-26 *kid friendly version for age appropriateness)

Once we understand how and why we “put off” the old and “put on” the new, we are able to use this to fight against the evils of our world. We see many scary things going on in our world and we might even be pressured to change our thinking about God and the truth of His Word. But, do you remember how we learned that His Word is just as true for us today as the day it was originally written? Galatians 5 helps us to see the difference in the sin of the world (desires of the flesh) and walking by the Spirit. By trusting in Jesus, the Holy Spirit changes our lives in ways that everyone can see. The old self (walking in the flesh) may have been angry, selfish, envious, or bragging of self. But, when God makes us new through our belief in Jesus, we start to become loving, patient, kind, more gentle, and have self-control. These are called the “fruit of the Spirit.” “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” (vv22-23) The fruit of the Spirit is very different from the acts of our old, sinful nature. When we see the fruit of the Spirit in ourselves or in someone else, we can tell that God is at work. In order to combat the evils of the world, we trust the Holy Spirit will help us fight by being strong in the fruit of the Spirit. Think about a fruit tree. When that tree was first planted, it didn’t have roots full of weeds. Whoever heard of a weed tree? No, that fruit tree had good, strong, healthy roots in order to produce beautiful and lovely fruit. That represents our hearts, too. Our old heart was full of weeds that produced bad, thorny branches. But, our new heart (given by Jesus) is full of good roots that produce love and all the rest of the fruit of the Spirit. This fruit flows out of us as God continues to help us live more like Christ, no matter the scary events happening in the world. We must remember that God’s Word is Truth! And, nothing else can be added to it or taken from it - that would be false teaching.

Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

God inspired the Apostle Paul to write about how to fight battles against sin and the devil. Every Christ-follower is in a battle against the unseen, evil one. Paul tells every Christ-follower how to combat by “putting on the full armor of God” so that we can stand firm against evil. (v11) Paul distinctly explains each piece of armor: belt, breastplate, sandals, shield, helmet, sword, and prayer. The “belt of truth,” found in God’s Word, keeps us from giving in to the world’s beliefs. We wrap it around our lives to hold everything else together. We protect our chest with the

“breastplate of righteousness” which ultimately came from Jesus. We are forgiven and covered in His righteousness. The shoes/sandals are made specifically to help us run bravely into battle. Our feet are sandaled with “readiness for the gospel of peace” giving us courage to run, telling everyone about the peace that Jesus has given us with God. The “shield of faith” helps us shield ourselves from the devil’s flaming arrows. We hold fast to our faith in Jesus and are not hit by any fiery arrows. Our head is covered with the “helmet of salvation.” Our helmet helps us remember that salvation only comes from Jesus, not any lies the evil one might try to tell us. God gives us the “Sword of the Spirit” which is His Word. Whatever we hear from the world or social media, we must go to the Word in order to see if what we are hearing is lining up with God. If it doesn’t, then His Word is **always** right - no matter what! Finally, Paul says, we must activate our armor with prayer, “Pray at **all times** in the Spirit.” (v18) This armor reminds us that we are very well protected because we have believed completely in Jesus. We do not have to be afraid of the battle because God has promised us His Armor. Fight a **good** fight by putting on the full armor of God!

Love (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 13)

Do you remember learning that love is part of the Fruit of the Spirit? Isn’t it sometimes difficult to show love? We all want to be loved, but sometimes it’s hard to love others. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth because they were having this problem. The Corinthians thought that all kinds of God-given gifts were more important than love. But, if we have all kinds of gifts and we don’t use them in love, those gifts are really worthless. Love makes sure that we use those gifts in a godly manner. Paul gave the Corinthians (and us) a long description of what love really looks like. Love isn’t just a feeling, love is something that we do! The world tells us love is what we are to “feel,” but God tells us that love is what He expects us to “do.” Love lasts forever! Did you know that the Bible tells us that, “For God so loved the world, He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life”? (John 3:16) Do you think that this could be the greatest display of love the world has ever seen? Jesus loved us so much that He willingly died to save us from sin and restore our relationship with God the Father. The world will not display such a love! We must turn from anything the world describes as love and turn to what Jesus displays as love. Whatever you may see as “love” in movies or on TV, read in books or magazines, or see on the internet, is not the love

that God displayed in His Son, Jesus. Will you love Jesus more than all the things you see and hear from the world? We show God great love when we accept His greatest gift of love: His Son!

Kids need to know that they have God's truth, salvation, grace and love. In world full of scary events and social pressures, now is the time to have life changing discussions with your kids! Please continue the conversations. Allow these mini-Bible studies to have just been the beginning of long and joyful discussions (ok, maybe, trying at times). Knowing that you have presented the gospel of Jesus Christ to the children around you should fill you with such joy. God Bless you, dear parent!

APPENDIX A

Good News (Luke 4:16-44)

- 1) Why were people so amazed with Jesus at the beginning of this passage? *Because He said HE was fulfilling a portion of the Holy Scroll (a prophecy from Isaiah).*
- 2) How did Jesus help the people in this passage? *He drove out unclean spirits, and healed the sick.*
- 3) When Jesus drove out unclean spirits from people, they called Him the “Holy One of God” and the “Son of God.” Why did Jesus tell them to BE QUIET and not tell anyone who He really was? *Because it was not yet time for His true identity to be revealed. He was just beginning His ministry and had much work to do in fulfilling the good news of salvation.*

Jesus Cleanses (Luke 17:11-19)

- 1) How many men did Jesus heal? *Ten*
- 2) How many returned to thank Him? *One* And who was that one? *A Samaritan man. A man that Jews usually did not like.*
- 3) Where did the other nine men go? *The scripture indicates they went to priests to be sure they were healed. And, apparently, they simply went on living their lives. Not once did they think to thank Jesus for saving them from the terrible skin disease.*
- 4) The other nine men were healed on the outside (their skin), but what do you think their inside was like (their heart - inner being)? *Answers will vary, but the idea is to have the kids know that the nine men were self-centered and ungrateful. They may have been “saved” on the outside, but certainly were not “saved” on the inside!*

New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2)

- 1) Re-read 2 Corinthians 5:15. Speaking of Jesus, why did He die for all? *So that we should no longer live for ourselves (selfishly), but for the One who died and was raised (Jesus, the Savior). Jesus died **for** us! Because He sacrificed Himself, we, as His followers, should **want to** live for Him - not our own selfish desires.*
- 2) What happens to someone’s “old sinful heart” once they believe in Jesus? *Jesus replaces the old heart with a new heart - a heart that loves Jesus and wants to honor/obey Him.*

- 3) When we are a new creation/have new hearts, we are “ambassadors for Christ.” What does an ambassador for Christ do? And, who do you know that God made a “new creation” and is now an ambassador for Christ? *Ambassadors tell others about the good news (gospel) of Jesus; how He is the Only One who can save us from sin. He is the Only One who can break our old sinful heart and give us brand new hearts.*

Treasure in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-24,33)

- 1) What are some things that you might consider “treasures on earth” that God would not consider “treasures in heaven”? *Answers will vary. The idea is all material items will perish, but our love, devotion, obedience, etc for God/Jesus will last forever. It will always be protected by God.*
- 2) Why does Jesus say we can not serve two masters (love Him and love money)? *Because we will show our greatest affection, our most love, to one to the other. We are not able to show devotion to both. One will always win.*
- 3) In order for God to always win our love, what does Jesus instruct us to do (v33)? *Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. And what will be the result? All we need will be provided for us by God.*

Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:31-46)

- 1) In your own words, can you explain what the kingdom of heaven is really like? *Answers should be something like: priceless, where Jesus wants us to live forever with Him because we are willing to give up the whole world. Answers may also represent the other parables read in this passage.*
- 2) What does the hidden treasure represent? *Jesus and how valuable He is to us. Jesus is the hidden treasure in the Old Testament, but He is revealed (no longer hidden) in the New Testament.*
- 3) Pick another parable from this passage that you would like to talk about. If you have any questions that we can’t answer right now, we can call _____ (your pastor, Bible study leader/teacher, small group leader, or trusted solid biblical friend) to ask them for guidance.

Confess and Believe (Romans 10:9-13)

- 1) Who did Jesus come to save? *All mankind, no matter what we look like or what we have, Jesus doesn't care about that. He came to save all that will believe in Him.*
- 2) God has given us the free gift of salvation in Jesus. What must we do to accept this free gift? *We must confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe with all our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. It doesn't mean that we can work hard enough or be good enough to save ourselves.*
- 3) If you haven't accepted God's free gift of salvation through Jesus, are you ready to do that today? Using what you've learned from this passage, why don't you pray (out loud), confessing your sin and believing with all your heart. There are no other special words that you have to say, just be honest with God and speak from your heart.

Holy Spirit Promised (John 14)

- 1) Maybe we cry out sometimes like Thomas did, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. How can we know the way?" (v5) What is Jesus' response and the promise we can hold in our heart? *Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (v 6) Jesus is the **only** way to heaven, to be reconciled to the Father.*
- 2) How is having the Holy Spirit live in us help us live like Christ? *The Holy Spirit is our guide, our counselor. He helps direct our ways and He helps us want to obey Christ. He helps us live rightly and holy according to Christ's teachings. (v 12, 26)*
- 3) Why did Jesus promise to have the Holy Spirit sent to us? *Holy Spirit is the assurance that Christ will return for those who believe in Him so that we (believers) can live with Him forever. (v 3, 15-18)*

New Believers (Acts 2:36-47)

- 1) Who gave Peter the power (courage) to speak to a crowd of people about Jesus? *The Holy Spirit that was inside of him.* And do you know that the same Holy Spirit can give you the power and courage to speak to your friends, family and neighbors about Jesus?
- 5) 3000 people believed the good news of the gospel of Jesus the day that Peter spoke. You may not be able to speak to 3000 people right now, but who could you speak to about Jesus?

Let's make a list and either give them a call or write them a letter. *Be sure to included that you are praying for them, or even better, include a prayer within your call or letter!*

- 6) According to this passage, what does it look like to "live like Christ"? *Fellowship and worship with other believers, praying, listening to teaching about Jesus, gathering together at the temple (church building), eating together, sharing with others, loving and helping another.*

Put Off Old; Put On New(Ephesians 4:1-6, 17-32; 5:1-2)

- 1) What was the purpose of Paul writing to the Ephesians (and the purpose for us to know it was God writing to us)? *Paul wanted to remind the Ephesians what Jesus had done for them and to live a life honoring to Him. God wants us to read this passage to be reminded of what Jesus did for us on the cross and by rising again. We, too, must live a life honoring to Jesus, Our Savior.*
- 7) What was it like to walk in the old self (4:17-19;25-32)? *In darkness, excluded from God, with hardened-calloused hearts, lying, anger, stealing, foul language, do not be bitter, sinfully angry, wrathful, and malicious.* Rather, what is it like to walk in the new self (vv25-32)? *Speak truth, be angry without sinning, be honest, do honest work to share with others, speak good and kind words to building them up, be kind, compassionate and forgiving.*
- 8) Why are we able to "put off" our old, worn out, selfish self and "put on" the new, Christ-honoring self? *Because we accept Jesus as our Savior, who forgave us all our sins by dying on the cross. When He rose again and ascended into Heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit. And when we believe Jesus is the only way to be reunited with the Father, Jesus gives us a new heart and we want to live like Him.*

Spirit versus Flesh (Galatians 5:16-26)

- 1) What is the difference between walking in the flesh and walking in the Spirit (review vv16-17)? *To walk in the flesh is to be selfish and act upon our own sinful desires/wants. To walk in the Spirit is to be lead by the Holy Spirit and act upon what God wants us to do.*
- 9) Can you list the nine Fruit of the Spirit without lookin? (Parents: this would be a great verse to help your child write on a 3x5 card and have them tape it on the bathroom mirror. Each time they brush their teeth and wash their hands, have them read it and/or say it out loud.)

The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

- 10)** How does the Fruit of the Spirit help us when we hear about scary things in the world? *Answers will vary. But, the idea is the Fruit of the Spirit help us fight against the flesh of the world. That it is part of God’s truth and is given to us by Jesus with our new hearts. We show the Fruit of the Spirit to others even in scary times.*

Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

- 1)** What is your favorite piece of God’s Armor and how does that piece help you fight against the world? *Answers with vary. Encourage the kids to describe other pieces of armor as well.*
- 11)** Why is prayer part of the Armor? *We activate the armor by prayer. We are able to talk to God in our prayers and He will help us use all the pieces of His Armor to fight against the ways of the world and the evil one.*
- 12)** Why do we need this armor? *Without God’s Armor, we are likely to believe things of the world and be hurt by things on social media. The armor keeps us close to God and keeps us safe from the evil one. What have you heard happening in the world lately that is a bit scary and how can we use God’s Armor to fight a good fight against that scary thing? Answers will vary.*

Love (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 13)

- 1)** Paul wrote to the Corinthians because of a specific problem they were having. Do you remember what the problem was? *They were using all of their God-given gifts without love. Using the gifts without love makes the gifts worthless.*
- 13)** What was the greatest display of love that God showed to us? *He gave a His Son, Jesus, who willingly died on the cross to save us all from sin. All we need to do is confess and believe in Jesus. We show God great love when we accept His gift of love, His Son!*
- 14)** Write John 3:16 on a 3x5 card and put it by your bed. Every morning and every night, read the card and begin to memorize this verse. Treasure it your heart forever!