

Love is showing others how much they matter to you.

DAY 1

Read John 3:16

What do you need to create a cake from scratch?

Ingredients? Yep!

Cooking utensils? Sure!

An oven? Absolutely!

But that's not all you needed! You needed a recipe, right? In baking, it's important to carefully measure out each ingredient and follow a plan step by step to make sure it turns into one delicious dessert.

Did you know that God has a plan too? It's true! But we're not talking about chocolate cake. God had a plan from the very beginning to show love to the world.

According to this verse . . .

What did God give? Jesus!

What did Jesus do? He gave His life by dying on the cross and being raised to life again.

What does that mean for us? When we put our trust in Jesus and choose to follow Him, we have a relationship with God forever.

That's love, friends! Ask an adult if you can make some cookies or bake a cake together. As you follow the plan, talk about how God had a plan by sending His only Son to show love to the whole world!

DAY 2

Read John 3:17

What is a judge? Write your answer in the box.

A judge looks at your actions and decides if you're innocent or guilty. And if you're guilty, the judge decides what your punishment would be.

God didn't send His only Son to judge us. He didn't send Jesus to shake his finger and tell us to shape up, to do better, to work harder or to clean up our act. God sent Jesus to save us. In the biggest act of love ever, Jesus took the punishment for sin (the stuff we do that we know is wrong) so that we could be forgiven. Because God has a plan to show love to the whole world, including you.

DAY 3

Read Proverbs 3:5-6

Grab a pencil and draw a horizontal line, left to right, in the space below.

Is your line perfectly straight? Are you sure? Grab a colored marker and a ruler or book. Now draw a second line on top of the first using the ruler or spine of the book as your guide. Which line was straighter? The one using the ruler or book, right?

Guess what? God is like that straight edged ruler. We don't know everything God knows. When we obey or do what God says, when we love God with all our hearts and love others like we love ourselves, God promises to show us where to go, to make our paths straight.

We can trust God no matter what when we remember that God loves us no matter what! And when we choose to trust and obey, God promises to guide us in the right direction.

Stop and pray today and thank God for making you and loving you. Ask for help to trust God.

DAY 4

Read 1 John 4:10

"But he started it!"

Ever hit your brother and then said these words when you got in trouble? Usually, these words are a way to justify bad behavior. But when it comes to love, these words aren't negative at all. Why?

Because when you talk about love, God **STARTED** it! Love comes from God, not us. And God demonstrated or showed us love by sending Jesus take the punishment for the wrong things we do. God made a way for anyone who believes to be forgiven.

When it comes to love, God went first. It was the plan to show love to the whole world from the very beginning.



In Love

Read through the verse below. Draw heart over the word "LOVE" or "LOVED" every time it appears in the verse. Draw a cross over the word "SON" and write your own name with an 's at the end over the word OUR.

"Here is what LOVE is. It is not that we LOVED God. It is that he LOVED us and sent his SON to give his life to pay for OUR sins."

1 John 4:10



God has a plan to show love to the world.