



The Story @ Home

3rd - 6th

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2019-2020)

Lesson #2-35
1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Last Week

Last week brought the story of Paul with a congregation in Corinth. Paul has a contentious relationship with this group (Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18).

This Week

Paul describes the exact opposite of division and quarreling in today's lesson as he describes self-giving love (1 Corinthians 13:1-13).

Story Summary

The passage in 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 is well known. Paul's writings about love are read at many weddings, though this passage has a bigger meaning to it. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul is doing more than telling people to love one another—he is inviting them to be in communion with one another through the Church. Paul reminds the Corinthians (and us) that we are one Body of Christ and we should love God and other people equally, no matter who they are.

Practice: Fellowship

Fellowship is an essential ingredient of our story, just as it is an essential ingredient of our lives. Paul demonstrated the spiritual practice of fellowship over and over as he traveled across many lands, bringing people together by sharing the good news of God. Bring people in your neighborhood this week for a meal or party.

Next Week

Next week, Paul focuses his teaching on clarifying the concept of resurrection. The Corinthians were arguing about this belief, and Paul points out that it is not a matter of just raising the dead, but of new life in God's kingdom (1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57).

The Point

God's love is the greatest gift we can receive and share.

Bible Nuts & Bolts

What Are the Epistles (Letters)?

The Epistles are a collection of 21 books in the New Testament. An epistle is a letter and many of the epistles were letters written to churches to help solve problems or to encourage them in their ministry. These letters are usually called occasional letters because they were written to address specific situations (occasions). The first 13 epistles were written by Paul or by someone writing in his name. Writing in someone else's name was common during this time because it gave added authority to the letter. The Book of Hebrews is usually called an epistle, though some consider it to be a sermon instead. The remaining epistles are called the Catholic Epistles because they were written to a general audience.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about our theme of The Power of God's Love?
- ✚ What does this scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The greatest of these is love.

Draw or cut out paper hearts so each person can give one to each family member. Write or draw on the hearts the things you love most about each person.

Monday—Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

Building up the body of Christ.

Talk about the gift that you think you bring to the church. If family members have trouble, help them realize their gifts.

Tuesday—Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Proclaiming resurrection.

Paul used to persecute the church, but God still used him. What is one negative trait you have that God works through?

Wednesday—Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

The risen Christ.

What one thing do you look for most at the resurrection?

Thursday—Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Christ the first fruits.

Christ has even defeated death! What does this mean to you?

Friday—Read 1 Corinthians 15:30-41

Heavenly bodies and earthly bodies.

Draw a picture of what you think you will look like in heaven.

Saturday—Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-50

Physical and spiritual bodies.

We exercise to take care of our physical bodies. Talk about things you can do to take care of your spiritual body. Which "body" is more difficult to care for? Why?