

CHILDREN CHURCH LESSON

CORE VALUES 2

TEXT 2 Kings 4:8-11; Romans 12:9-11

MEMORY VERSE I John 4:7, 8 "Beloved, let us love one another. For love is of God and anyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God for God is love." (*Do you remember the song?*)

OR

I John 4:7a "Let us love one another."

STORY – SHOW IT

Seun watched Ngozi as she arranged the blue nylon bags in the carton. Ngozi was singing to herself and didn't notice that Seun was watching her. Each nylon bag contained snacks and a small storybook.

"Why are you so happy?" Seun finally asked her sister.

"I'm happy because I'm going to make some people happy. Uncle Gbemileke will be taking some of us from our Sunday School class to the Peculiar Treasures Orphanage. He has bought a bag of rice and a bag of beans on behalf of the church to give the orphanage. We were told to bring small gifts for the children. We want to remind them that God loves them and cares about them."

"But it's not Christmas time."

"We shouldn't show love to people only on special occasions. God loves us all the time. If we say we love, the people should not just hear it, they should see it by our actions. We are showing love by giving them things and spending time with them."

"Okay."

Sarah entered the room. "Ngozi, Dad said I should tell you ten more minutes."

"Thanks. I'm almost ready."

"I wish I was going with you." Sarah said.

"Don't worry when you get older you can do things like this." Ngozi said.

"When you get older, when you get older." Sarah said mimicking her sister.

Ngozi laughed. "Yes, when you get older. Remember when Mum said that you can start learning to cook when you turned five? Well you are older and you have started learning how to cook."

"True," Sarah said thoughtfully.

"However, you can still show love now."

"How?"

"Well, when school resumes you can help your classmates if they don't understand something or give them something they need when you are working in class. For now, you can get Mummy to help you bake cookies and give some out to our neighbours. As you give them out tell them something nice. Mummy would have to go with you though."

"I could go with her." Seun said, "I'm old enough to go out on my own and since it's just within our compound, I'm sure Mummy will allow us to go alone. I could write short messages and add it to each pack we give our neighbours."

"That would be nice. Maybe I'll add a nice picture to it as well." Ngozi said.

The three sisters were excited as they discussed their proposed project.

"Ngozi, it's time to go," Mr Adedapo said in a loud voice.

"I'm coming, Daddy," Ngozi replied as she quickly went out of the room with her carton of gifts.

That evening, at the dinner table, the children shared their ideas with their parents. Their parents were proud of them and agreed to support them.

After dinner Mrs Adedapo shared the story of the woman who did a good deed and showed love by making a room for Elisha, a man of God, to stay whenever he came in to town. She also mentioned that the woman was enthusiastic about what she did. To conclude the sharing Mrs Adedapo read Romans 12:9-11.

Ngozi was a little pensive. "I remember you talked to us about values some time ago," she said pensively. "Are love and enthusiasm values as well?"

"Yes, my dear," Mrs Adedapo replied with a smile. Love and enthusiasm are values we should all have."

"I love you, Mummy," Sarah said. She gave her mum a hug and then she hugged her father and her two sisters. Love flowed in the sitting room that evening in terms of hugs, high fives, and nice words.

QUESTIONS

1. Where did Ngozi go in the morning?
2. What did she take along with her to demonstrate love?
3. What did Ngozi say that Sarah can do to show love to the neighbours?
4. What did Seun say that she was going to do to support Sarah?
5. Who offered to help the three children with their project?
6. What two values were mentioned in the story?
7. How did Sarah show love to her parents and her sisters that evening?

CONFESSION

I do my work. I am not lazy. I work hard. I do my work with enthusiasm. I do my work happily. I love and I am loved. I don't just say it, I show it. I love my family and I am loved. I love my teachers and I am loved. I love God and I am loved.

ACTIVITIES

1. **With younger children** – 1) Talk about your family tree and the love that was shared.
2) Talk about what the children like doing. How do they feel when they are doing those things? Does anyone have to force them to do those things?
For example playing with *Lego*.
2. **With older children** – 1) Talk about your family tree and the love that was shared.
2) Talk about what they can do that they will be happy doing and that will make other people happy. For example helping the parent to do the shopping (and maybe getting a packet of biscuit for energy spent 😊) or spending time with an elderly neighbour who doesn't usually have visitors (talking about things of mutual interest).