

# Epic: A love story for the ages



First, watch this  
week's video at

[hillsideonline.com/  
kids](https://hillsideonline.com/kids)

Love: Showing  
others how  
much they  
matter to you

### Memory Verse

"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, NIV

### Bible Story

Greatest  
Commandment  
Matthew 22:34-40

### Bottom Line

Love God by  
loving others.

Use this guide to help your family learn how we can share God's love with others.

## Activity

### What Do You Love?

#### What You Need:

Ball (could be balled-up scrap paper or aluminum foil)

#### What You Do:

Sit across from one another a fair distance apart (far enough apart to scoot toward each other several times). Toss the ball back and forth, with both of you answering the questions below.

For example: you'll ask the question, toss the ball, and allow your child to answer. They will toss the ball back to you, and then it's YOUR turn to answer. After both of you have answered the question, scoot closer together. If you drop the ball, scoot back for one round of questions.

#### Questions:

What is a...

- Color you love?
- Movie you love?
- Song you love?
- Food you love?
- Place you love?
- Hobby you love?
- Game you love?
- Team you love?

When you've both answered all the questions, comment on how much closer together you are. Say, "I had fun talking about all the things we both love. And look! When we scooted closer together, it was easier to toss the ball. Shorter distances are easier to manage. Shorter lists are easier to manage, too!"



## Talk About the Bible Story

What kind of "list" became shorter in our Bible story today? (*The list of rules Jesus wants us to follow*)

How many "rules," or commandments, did Jesus say we should focus on? (*Two: loving God and loving others*)

How can we show that we love God? (*By loving others*)

What are some ways we can show love to others? (*Being a good friend, a good listener, by forgiving, by including, etc.*)

When is it most difficult for you to show love to others?

*Parent: Tell your child about a time you showed love to someone, even when it was difficult.*

## Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for the love You've given us that encourages us to love the people You've placed around us. Please help everyone we encounter to feel Your love through the way we treat them this week. Please show us the chances we have to love You by loving others—whether it's at school, home, sports practice, or even at the store. Thank You for letting us be a part of Your Big Story! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."