

Enrichment: Character

Living as a Gift of Love

When Jesus was asked, “What is the greatest commandment?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37–39). This is what God has created us to do: to love Him and one another.

What does it mean to love others, though? Love is about more than having warm feelings for others. To love is to do and desire what is good for other people. It means wanting what is best for them and being willing to work for it. When we truly love others, we become a gift of love to them. We give ourselves to them.

When God became man in Jesus, He showed us that to love like God, we must live as gifts of love. Jesus gave Himself as a gift to others. He dedicated His whole life to the service of God and others. He spent time caring for others by healing the sick, preaching, and teaching. He gave His life on the Cross as a perfect sacrifice of love to save us from our sins.

There are many ways that we can imitate Jesus and live as gifts of love. It starts in our families. In our families, we help one another in our needs:

- We give of our time and energy to care for one another.
- We care for one another when we are sick.
- We work together to do chores that are needed to meet our family’s daily needs.

In our families, God has given us to one another to share His love. Each of us, then, was created to spend our lives being a gift of love for others.

Journal Reflection

What are two ways you will live as a gift of love to others? Write your answer on the journal page. [Journal pages are available on the parent and student portals.](#)

