

2009-2010 WORLD MISSIONS SERMON OUTLINE

MISSIONS IS 4 KIDS 2

An illustrated sermon outline with PowerPoint pictures for children of all ages
(To download the PowerPoint presentation go to
<http://agchurches.org/Content/Resources/Blatchley%20.ppt>)
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TEXT

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

INTRODUCTION

God loved, so He came.

Put into the simplest terms that even a child can understand, the mission of the Church is about love, about following the pattern created by God and commanded by His Son.

Love is a popular subject. It is a word that has been abused and twisted by many to become a message of defilement. Yet, the true meaning and essence of love has remained pure throughout time and will endure forever.

Children copy what they see. Make it your goal to demonstrate *true* love. Help the younger generation learn more about this eternal truth and our God who is Love in Action. So much of what is done in the name of love is a perversion of the real. It is, in fact, lust and not love. Lust is only interested in what it can receive.

To find out if it is true love or simply a perversion, we must look to the source. A counterfeit placed next to the real product will be seen for the imitation it is.

God so loved ... He gave. God gave His best. God has loved me. Now I love ... so I must ... give. Let's give our best!

FLASH POINT — God so loved, He gave. I love, so I must give.

OPENING PRAYER

Ask a child to assist in the opening prayer of the missions message. Here is a sample prayer:

“Dear Jesus, I really do love You. Thank you for our mission. Please help us to learn how to love as You love. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.”

PREPARATION LIST

Special Emphasis: Nine-volt battery with a **good** charge, paper, marker pen
Sermon Introduction: Four eggs, marker pen, towel
Scripture Verse: Two puppets
Bible Message: Two roses, scissors, wooden cross, air freshener

- Object Lesson #1: Nine-volt battery with **no** charge
Object Lesson #2: One egg
Object Lesson #3: An imitation bird
Object Lesson #4: Make-up or devil's mask, syringe, pretend alcoholic beverage, pretend cigarette

Special Emphasis Love Gives

Props: Nine-volt well-charged battery, paper, marker pen.

Preparation: One nine-volt battery with a **good** charge. (Feel free to substitute and adapt as needed). Place a paper cover on the battery with the word "love" and draw a heart on it. Play some romantic music to help set the stage for this special emphasis.

Optional: With a large group, you might want to make a large (double-sided) Styrofoam battery so that all the children can easily see what you are doing, and what is written on the battery.

Presentation: Hold up the battery with the drawing of a heart and the word "love" written on it.

"What would you expect from love if it came as a battery like this?" (Allow time for a response).

"Yes! You would expect to get a **charge** out of it." Ask for a volunteer to come and sample how much love **charge** the special package contains. Explain that whoever volunteers to test it will get a **charge** (a tiny shock) out of it. Allow the volunteer to demonstrate.

(It won't do any serious damage and, if there are no volunteers, go ahead and demonstrate it yourself. Dramatize the **love charge** with flair (have fun). (If you use a volunteer, reward his or her bravery.) **True Love** will always give.

FLASH POINT — God so loved, He gave. I love, so I must give.

Sermon Introduction Good Egg

Props: Four chicken eggs, marker pen and a towel.

Preparation: Examine the eggs to make sure they are not cracked. [Practice is recommended to be comfortable with this lesson.] The egg **should** not crack when it is squeezed in one hand even when full strength is applied. Write the word "love" on the eggs. Keep a couple eggs for backup in case there is an accident, also a towel for cleanup.

Participants: One or two volunteers preferably between the ages of 7 - 9.

Presentation: “Kids, who would like to help me demonstrate this lesson? I need someone who is really strong.” (After securing a volunteer between the ages of 7 - 9, hold up the egg.) Tell the volunteer that you want her to take the egg and, with one hand, squeeze as tightly as possible, trying to crack the egg just by squeezing it. Hold the egg up so everyone can see. After she tries unsuccessfully to crack the egg, explain that this is like love. It appears fragile, but it really is very strong.

(Take note: If an egg cracks, you can expand the lesson to include that love is sometimes destroyed because of problems. Cracks which are unseen in the shell make a weak point and the egg is flawed, not able to hold up under pressure. The egg that had no flaw (perfect love only found in God) holds up under the same pressure.

FLASH POINT — God so loved, He gave. I love, so I must give.

Scripture Verse

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

Props: It is possible to do this with puppets. If using two puppets, one can play the part of a slow learner. Interaction with a live person such as the pastor is also possible. Feel free to add the humor as fits the congregation.

Presentation: Display today’s verse. Familiarize the children with the verse. When the children have memorized the verse adequately enough to quote the verse, ask the following questions to see if they understand the message of the Scripture passage:

1. God so loved — who did He love? *“All the people of the world.”*
2. What did God do to show His love? *“He gave.”*
3. What did He give, His best or His worst? *“His best, His one and only Son.”*
4. Why did He give His Son? *“So that we might not die and go to hell, and that we would have eternal life.”*
5. God loved so He gave. If someone gives us a gift, what must we do to make it our own? *“Receive it.”*

FLASH POINT — God so loved, He gave. I love, so I must give.

Bible Message Priceless Rose

TEXTS

Song of Solomon 2:1

Isaiah 53:1-10

Props: Two roses (or an acceptable substitute), scissors and a wooden cross. Rose air freshener would be helpful.

Preparation: Read the Scripture passage to familiarize yourself with today's message. Make a wooden cross.

Optional: Mount the cross on a wooden base. Wrap white miniature Christmas lights around the cross. Add any other props such as a bottle of rose oil fragrance that would help enhance the sermon.

Presentation: "The rose has been one of the most famous and popular flowers in the world. Often, when I pick a rose or see a rose in a vase, I think of how God gave His one and only Son, Jesus, to die for the forgiveness of our sins. When a rose is picked, it is separated from the bush on which it was raised, in the same way Jesus was cut off from the land of the living (Isaiah 53:8).

"He was only 33 years old when His life was cut off." Take the rose and attach it to the cross. "The rose petals are pulled off the stem and crushed in order to produce the most fragrance." (Demonstrate). "The Bible speaks of Jesus being crushed for our sins (Isaiah 53:5).

"Jesus died on the cross for our sins. When we accept Jesus into our heart and ask Him to forgive our sins, there is something special that happens."

(Optional: Turn on the lights on the cross). "The fragrance of heaven comes into our hearts and we become a sweet smelling fragrance for God. The life we live for Jesus becomes like a rose that others can smell and see that Jesus lives inside of us." Hold out the crushed rose petals to share some of the rose fragrance with your audience.

FLASH POINT — God so loved, He gave. I love, so I must give.

Object Lesson #1 No Charge

Prop: Nine-volt battery with **no** charge.

Preparation: Take a dead nine-volt battery and decorate it as the one in the Special Emphasis with the words "Love High Charge" and a heart on it. On the opposite side of the battery place the words "Broken Heart" and draw a broken heart on it.

Optional: With a large group, you might want to make a large (double-sided) Styrofoam battery so that all the children can easily see what you are doing, and what is written on the battery.

In this lesson, use the battery that has **no** charge due to a broken heart.

Participants: One helper. (Helper normally refers to someone who regularly assists with the children's lessons. When we use the word volunteer it normally refers to one who comes from the audience.)

Presentation: Hold up the battery so that the words "Love High Charge" is visible. "Kids, we already demonstrated this once. Could I have a different volunteer this time?" When a volunteer comes forward, hold the battery so that only the words "Love High Charge" are

visible. Add drama to the lesson by asking the child if she is nervous about putting a high charge battery on her tongue.

When she finally tries it, ask if it shocked her. When she said she didn't feel any shock express surprise and examine the battery closely. (Turn the battery over.) "Oh I see the problem. This battery has a broken heart! When people have a broken heart they often lose their ability to love. Kids, there are many ways to have your heart broken. One of the easiest ways is to never have known **true love**. God is **love**, and if we have never known Him we have never had a chance to become charged with the **high power charge of God's true love**.

"That's what's wrong with many people. God made us in His image. We have a heart that was made to love like God loves.

"We need to be charged with God's love. We do that by asking Jesus into our heart. Let's take a moment and ask Jesus to come into our hearts, to forgive our sins and fill us up with His love."

FLASH POINT — God so loved He gave. I love so I must give.

Object Lesson #2 **Humpty Dumpty**

Prop: One egg.

Preparation: Again, as used in the Sermon Introduction, write the word "love" on the egg. Draw a face on the egg, perhaps glue on legs, arm, and a hat, etc. You may choose to hollow out the egg.

Optional: For large audiences, a large Styrofoam egg could be used to demonstrate this lesson.

Presentation: "There is a fairy tale about an egg called Humpty Dumpty. It says, 'Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall'. Now, if you are an egg and you sit on a wall, it can be dangerous."

Place your egg on the table or a high place. "According to this old tale, 'Humpty Dumpty had a great fall'." (Demonstrate: Allow the egg to drop.)

"The fairy tale goes on to say, 'All the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't put Humpty Dumpty back together again'. Kids, there are very real times in our lives when we feel like we are Humpty Dumpty. We have something bad happen to us and we feel all broken up inside just like Humpty Dumpty. (Hold up the broken pieces of egg). It seems like all the people in the world, including our teachers at school, our best friends, and even our own family, cannot put us back together again. We have been broken and our love has been destroyed and lost.

"Kids, if it hasn't happened to you yet just remember this lesson and the fairy tale. It tells the truth. There is only one person who can heal a broken heart. It is not the king's men nor his horses of the country where Humpty Dumpty lives. It is the King himself. King

Jesus knows what it is like to be broken and He is that only One Who can put you back together again. Nobody else can heal your broken heart like Jesus can.”

FLASH POINT — God so loved He gave. I love so I must give.

Object Lesson #3 Love Bird

Props: An imitation bird.

Presentation: (Hold up the bird.) “Kids, this is a special bird. I call it my Love Bird.” (Hold the bird close and pet it, treating it as if it were a real bird). “Love Bird is so special. It sings so sweetly even if I am the only one who can hear it. That softens the way love is. It is only heard by the one it is given to.

“Now if Love Bird were a real bird, it would like to fly around.” (Now begin to emphasize and stress the words *I*, and *me*, or *my*.) “If *I* don’t want to **give** Love Bird the freedom to fly around, because *I really love* Love Bird, and *I always want* Love Bird to *stay* with me and sing to me, then I would be tempted to close *my* hand around Love Bird and *I* would not let Love Bird fly. If that made Love Bird sad and unhappy, and if Love Bird tried to struggle, *I* might hang on all the tighter because Love Bird is *my* special friend, and I don’t want to let go of *my* Love Bird. Kids, do you know what will happen to Love Bird if *I* never let go and *I* never allow Love Bird to fly?” (Allow time for a response).

“Yes, kids, you know the truth, and you know what would happen. My special Love Bird would die.” (Demonstrate: Hold out the Love Bird by the foot as if it were dead). “Kids, sometimes the truth that you know when you are young is forgotten when you get older. When some kids grow up, they think that just because they love someone, they should hang on to that person real tightly, and not **give** him or her any freedom. They kill their Love Bird, or best friend’s love.” (Again hold out the Love Bird by the foot as if it were dead).

“God loves us so very much. He wants us to be free to choose whom we will serve and love.” (Demonstrate with the bird). “God holds us in His hand and He protects us, but He **gives** us freedom to decide whom we will love. He will not close His hand and kill us.

“If you love someone, you need to love him with an open hand. Like with Love Bird, if he is really my friend, I can open my hand and **give** him freedom. Even if he flies away, if his love for me is real, he will return.

“Kids, you understand, *I’m talking about a human friend*. Then, **if** he is really meant to be my friend, he will come back. **But**, if I try to hold him too tightly” (demonstrate with Love Bird), “what will I do to his love?” (Allow time for a response). “Yes, I will kill that love.”

FLASH POINT — God so loved He gave. I love so I must give.

Object Lesson #4 Giving! Drama

Props: Makeup or mask, syringe, pretend alcoholic beverage, pretend cigarette.

Participant: One helper and the leader.

Preparation: Dress one person up as the devil. Prepare him with props that are tools of addiction such as a syringe representing drugs (perhaps load it with water for extra effect), also additional items representing an alcoholic beverage, cigarettes, etc.

Presentation: The actor, representing the devil, enters. He announces that he has been listening to the lesson, and he is angry. He wants the kids to know that he heard the leader teaching them today's lesson.

The child representing the devil says he doesn't like the Flash Point. He doesn't want to say it himself because he doesn't like it, so he asks the kids to repeat it. (If necessary, have the leader step in and help the kids say the Flash Point which is: *God so loved He gave. I love so I must give.*)

Devil: "God is not the only one who gives. I have a lot of things to give away. Free, no charge. Look!" (And he holds up the cigarette, beer bottle, etc.) "Anybody want some?" At that point, the leader steps in and tells the devil to get out.

Devil: Exits laughing, saying, "If you change your mind, I'll give you something."

Leader: "Kids, the devil told the truth, in his twisted way. He has many things to give. But just because someone has something to give, does not mean he really loves you. People can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." (Repeat).

FLASH POINT — God so loved He gave. I love so I must give.

Story Time Mother's Love

Note: The pictures are attached that can be set up as a PowerPoint presentation.

Picture #46-1: Mama Chicken and her chicks were very busy looking for lunch. Baby chicks are always hungry. Baby chick Jong Jong, or JJ for short, was the fastest and biggest of all his brothers and sisters and he was always bragging about it. You can see him there with his mouth open, talking to Mama Chicken. He was telling his mama that he was bored having to hang around his slower brothers and sisters all the time. He'd already seen all of the farmyard and he wanted to see more of the world.

Picture #46-2: Before Mama had much opportunity to answer little JJ, there was a sound of a big wind and a crackling noise. Mama Chicken and her little ones turned around and saw a fire racing along headed their way!

Chickens and other birds and animals don't have any way to fight a fire. They have to run from it in order to live. People are the same way. When we face the fires of hell, people have no power in themselves to put out hell's fires.

Picture #46-3: Mama Chicken and her little family ran for their lives. All the farm animals ran as fast as they could for the farm's pond. They knew that if they could get in the water in time they might live. Already, the farm's dog, Bogie, had raced ahead and was almost to the pond. The other animals were racing there as fast as they could.

When there is a fire and is too big to control, the safest thing is to get away from it. Fire is very dangerous to play with. The fire of hell will always burn anyone who tries to play with it.

Picture #46-4: JJ was really unhappy. He could run faster than his brothers and sisters, but his mom would not run any faster than her slowest chick.

Kids, JJ's mom was concerned for all of them. She knew that if she left any of her chicks behind, they would die. Often you can see that with the animals that God created. They will protect their little ones when danger comes, no one has to teach them that. JJ shouted at Mama Chicken, "I can see the pond from here. I am going to run ahead and wait for you there."

Mama protested: "JJ, you are still a little chick. You will be safer with your mama." But JJ would not listen and raced ahead to get in the water.

Picture #46-5: In just a few moments JJ disappeared in the grass as he raced ahead to get to the water. Mama Chicken called to her little chicks and said to them: "I'm afraid we are not going to make it. The wind is blowing too fast and the fire can go faster than you littlest ones." She said: "Come here. Gather under my wings."

When all her chicks came close, except for JJ who was still running, Mama Chicken folded her wings protectively around the little ones as she huddled close to the ground. The little chicks could not see anything. They could not even smell the smoke. All they felt was their nice mama holding them close. Kids, that is the way the Bible describes the love of God. He enfolds us in His love like the mama chicken covered her chicks with her feathers.

Picture #46-6: The fire was hot and fast for it had not rained for many days. Any animal that did not find shelter or water would be killed in the fire. This is what will happen with all people one day. There will be a fire that destroys those who live without the protection of God.

Picture #46-7: The farmer came out after the fire. It made him sad to see all the trees and fields that the fire destroyed. The farmer looked over all his farm to see what animals had survived.

He did not find any living creatures out in the fields, just the blackened smoky remains of his fields.

Picture #46-8: When he went by his pond he was pleased to see many of his farm animals had survived. Even Bogie was there in the pond. But none of his chickens had survived, not even JJ, who had tried to outrun the fire, leaving his mother and sisters and brothers behind.

Picture #46-9: The farmer was saddened by the loss of all his chickens. He walked back across the fields and was angry at how the fire had destroyed so much of the good things that he grew on the farm. He came up to what looked like a black clump of grass and kicked it. He was in for a big surprise!

Picture #46-10: The farmer kicked what he thought was a burnt clump of grass, but it was really Mama Chicken. She had stayed huddled over her chicks, and in the fire she had died.

But even though she died, she gave up her life to save her chicks. How surprised the farmer was to hear the little “cheep, cheep” sounds made by the baby chickens. Mama Chicken could have saved her own life had she raced ahead to the pond and abandoned her chicks. But, instead, she chose to protect them which cost Mama Chicken her life.

Kids, that is so much like Jesus. He did not have to die on a cross. He was big and strong. He is God’s Son. But Jesus chose to die on the cross so that you and I could live. JJ thought he could make it to safety all on his own, but was burned in the fire. There is only one way to escape the burning fires of hell and that is to invite Jesus to come into your heart and ask Him to forgive your sins.

Lead the children in a short prayer asking Jesus to forgive their sins and inviting Him to live in their hearts, and to make spreading God’s love the mission of their lives.

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