

All You Need Is Love

By Kelsey Grulke

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 2**Focus:**

We can express love to others.

Lesson 2**Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 13

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
—1 Corinthians 13:4

Students will discuss love stories and play a game to get them started thinking about what love actually is.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Lyrics to a secular love song (your choice)
- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Whiteboard and marker (save responses for Step 4)

Before class, look up the lyrics to one of your favorite secular love songs (if you type “lyrics” and the title to your song in your search engine, the lyrics will come up). Make a list of all of the things that this song tells you about love or the overall message it presents about love. You will use this as an example during the first activity during class.

Greet your students as they enter. While everyone is getting settled, hand out writing supplies. Ask your students to think of a popular love song that they enjoy listening to. Have them write down how love is described in the song. What does the song tell them about love? Use your example to show them how to do this. Once everyone has had a chance to think and write, have your students share what they found and write a comprehensive list (including yours) on the whiteboard. Discuss which ideas are most common (example: love makes you feel good, your self-worth is defined by the person loving you, love doesn’t last, nothing matters but the one you love, etc.).

Share this video with your students [4:39]:

What Is Love? 0-100

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_UWGKzqMwso

➤ **What are some of the things these people had to say about love that stood out to you?** (Answers will vary. Add these to the list on the whiteboard.)

➤ **How would you define love? How would it differ from the song lyrics or comments we just heard?** (Allow students to brainstorm. Write their answers on the board.)

➤ **What are some ways that people show love in our culture?** (Doing nice things for each other, giving gifts or flowers, etc.)

Be sure to save the responses on the whiteboard for Step 4.

Our world defines and shows love in many different ways. Some ways are good, some ways might not be so good. The movies we watch and the songs we listen to have a lot to say about love. Some of it is right, some of it is wrong. God has a lot to say about love too. In fact, the Bible gives us a very clear definition of God's kind of love. Let's see how God's love compares to our definition of love.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

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Materials:

- Whiteboard list from Step 1

Ask a volunteer to read the memory verse (1 Cor. 13:4) one more time. Hand out pencils and paper.

God gives us such a great definition of love. 1 Corinthians 13 is a gift to us that can help us discern what real love looks like. The world we live in has a lot to say about love. First Corinthians 13 can help us know if what we're hearing about love in songs, movies, or from our friends matches up with what God says about love.

Ask your students to look at the list you made on the whiteboard in Step 1.

- **What things in our earlier observations about love line up with God's definition of love and what doesn't?** (Answers will vary.)

This week, challenge your students to write down the lyrics to their favorite songs and look deeper at all the media they take in as well as all the conversations they have or hear. Ask them to evaluate how it lines up with God's definition of love. Ask them to watch and listen with new eyes and ears. If they find out what they're hearing/watching doesn't line up with God's love, ask them to consider making a different media choice that is more in line with God's definition of love.

End by praying for each student to be able to spot real love in what they watch and listen to and be able to know when what they see and hear isn't in line with God's definition of love.

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