

Lesson Scripture:

Hosea 11:1-2, 7-10; 12:1-2, 6-14

May 31, 2020



Key Verse:

You must return to your God;  
maintain love and justice,  
and wait for your God always.  
(Hosea 12:6)

## Hold On to Love

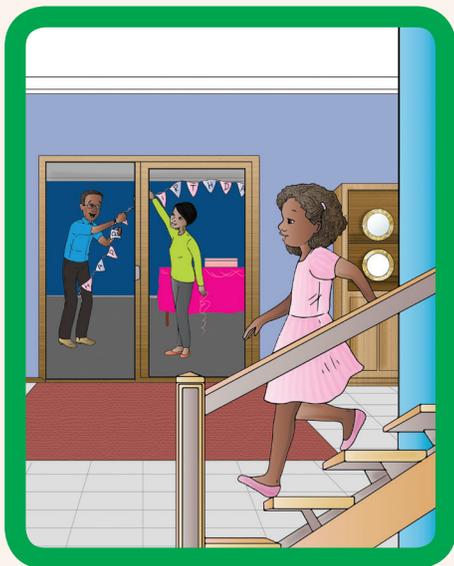
God loved the people even when they rebelled against Him. God loved them like a father loves his children. But the more God reached out to them, the farther they moved away from Him.

The prophets called for the people to turn back to God, but they refused. God did not want to punish them in His anger and destroy them again. The people were telling lies and making agreements with their enemies. The people should do what was honest and just. The merchants used dishonest scales to cheat people. The people bragged about being rich so that no one would know about their *sins* (wrongdoings). But God had brought them out of Egypt and He could make them live as they did when they were in the desert.

The people of Gilead were evil and they *sacrificed* (gave up to God) bulls at Gilgal. God would make their altars piles of stone. Their ancestor, Jacob, had fled to Mesopotamia and worked as a sheep tender to pay for a wife. God's prophet led Jacob's *descendants* (future family members) out of Egypt. He cared for God's people. The people deserved to die for the shameful things they had done.



## An Attitude of Gratitude



Alison had gotten everything for her birthday that she had asked for. There were new clothes, the new toys she wanted, and even a little costume makeup from her auntie Carol. It was all wonderful and she was another year closer to double digits.

"Happy birthday, Alison!" her friends and family said as they left her party at the end of the day. She asked her parents for a princess party. There was a jump castle, a huge birthday cake with a princess doll on top, and lots of balloons and streamers. Her backyard looked like a magical kingdom.

As Alison took all her new stuff to her room to put it away, she heard some noise from outside. When she went to look out the window, Alison saw her parents. They were cleaning up from her party and the sun had set almost an hour before!

Alison realized how very hard they had worked to make her day special. Alison sighed as she headed downstairs to help them clean up. It was the least she could do to thank them for such a wonderful day . . . and she could not thank them enough!

## Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab



Hello, everyone! Ruby here! This is a great lesson on recognizing what others do for us out of love. Sometimes it is easy to overlook someone's demonstration of love as something owed to us or something that we deserve. Many times, people do things for us because they want us to know how much they love us. God showed His love to His people in today's lesson.

How should we respond when someone does something wonderful for us? How can we show others that we appreciate what they do for us? How can we share that love with those in our communities who are in need?

# Unscramble and Fill In

Unscramble the scrambled-up words from today's lesson. You may refer to the Word Bank for help. Then, using the unscrambled words, fill in the blanks of the paragraph below to complete a message related to today's lesson. (Hint: The first letter of each word in the paragraph has been placed.)

## WORD BANK

anger

destroy

goodness

loved

shown

1. **ODNSSEOG** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **DTOYESR** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **GANER** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **VDLOE** \_\_\_\_\_
5. **HNSWO** \_\_\_\_\_

The people of Israel had forgotten the **g**\_\_\_\_\_ and compassion that God had **s**\_\_\_\_\_ them. The people had turned to worshipping false gods and burning incense to idols. But God **l**\_\_\_\_\_ the people and He would not **d**\_\_\_\_\_ them through His **a**\_\_\_\_\_.

# Search for the Clue

Locate the letter in the Puzzle Box below and follow the directional arrows to locate the missing letter. Write the letter on the line. When completed, you will discover a key word from today's lesson to plug into the statement at the bottom. (Example: U ↑ ↑ → = W)



I	G	E	C	X
K	H	P	W	V
S	A	R	Y	M
F	L	U	N	B
D	T	Q	J	O

1. K → ↓ ← = \_\_\_\_\_
2. H ↓ ↓ ↓ = \_\_\_\_\_
3. M ← ← ← = \_\_\_\_\_
4. V ↓ ↓ ← = \_\_\_\_\_
5. A ← ↓ ↓ = \_\_\_\_\_
6. I → ↓ ↓ = \_\_\_\_\_
7. C ↓ ↓ ← = \_\_\_\_\_
8. J ← ← ← = \_\_\_\_\_
9. P ← ← ↓ = \_\_\_\_\_



Love and justice are the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's love.