



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE
Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

Age: 13+yrs

SEEK

April 19 – Seek Love

Song: Love is a flag flying high

Love is a flag flying high from the castle of my heart,
From the castle of my heart, from the castle of my heart.
Love is a flag flying high from the castle of my heart,
For the King is in residence there.

[Chorus]

*So let it fly in the sky let the whole world know,
Let the whole world know, let the whole world know.
So let it fly in the sky let the whole world know,
That the King is in residence there.*

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:14 NIRV

Be loving in everything you do.



Scripture: Matthew 5: 43 – 48 NIRV

Love Your Enemies

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour. (Leviticus 19:18) Hate your enemy.' 44 But here is what I tell you. Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. 45 Then you will be children of your Father who is in

heaven. He causes His sun to shine on evil people and good people. He sends rain on those who do right and those who don't. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Even the tax collectors do that. 47 If you greet only your own people, what more are you doing than others? Even people who are ungodly do that. 48 So be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Message:

When we talk about seeking love, we are really seeking to be more like Jesus. We want that whatever we do or say, is a reflexion of what Jesus would have done. To get a perfect example of love, we should look to our creator God. Often, God's love is referred to as agape love which is the highest form of love that is selfless and sacrificial. It is steadfast, unchanging, and unconditional. In 1 John 4:7 – 8, we are told to love one another, since love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

The Pharisees believed that you should love your neighbour but hate your enemy. But Jesus said no to this. He taught that we should also love our enemies, bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who spitefully use us and bully us. In so doing, we would have found the love that God wants us to have.

But what does it mean to love your neighbour? It means that you seek what is best for them and for yourself. It is to help them in every way possible to respond in love. It involves an attitude of honour and respect in keeping with the example of Christ. This love should work in us a measure of patience, kindness and mercy toward others, speak the truth in love to others. We read in Ephesians. 4:15, *"Instead, we will speak the truth in love. So we will grow up in every way to become the body of Christ"*. Christ is the head of the body. You should also treat people as we desire to be treated. This command is found in, Matt. 7:12; *"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you."* This is often referred to as the golden rule. In every respect love is shown by God, so in seeking God's love, you should seek to develop your love for others.

However, in trying to adhere to the command to love your neighbour, you must not become so accommodating and pleasing that you become like them. You are not seeking to please some individual to the point where you imitate the object of your love. In the extreme, you dress like them, talk like them, join them in their pursuits of pleasure and seek their approval in that conformity. You really do not want to begin to act like the people you want to love.

Agape love, as taught in the Bible, requires that you do not imitate the actions your neighbour, but that as you follow Christ, you would encourage your neighbour to do the same through the influence of your friendship, words and actions. The best way to love your neighbour is to show them Christ in you!

A Prayer for love:

Almighty Father, I thank You earnestly for Your great love and the blessings of family and friends. I ask you dear Lord, to teach me to love, guide my heart to love those friends that I call enemies because they have hurt and harmed me. Though my wounds could be deep, help me forgive and find forgiveness. May I remember the many times I have sinned against others and how I seek forgiveness. You have always forgiven me. Help me to be kindhearted, even when I don't want to be. Teach me to show compassion, even when I think it's not deserved. Help me to demonstrate to others (my peers, families, friends, and especially my enemies), the kind of love that you show me. I pray that everyone will get to know you as the God of love, and they will know what love really is. Amen



Answers from last week:

1. i	6. d	11. m	16. o
2. n	7. j	12. s	17. q
3. e	8. l	13. c	18. f
4. k	9. r	14. g	19. a
5. h	10. t	15. b	20. p

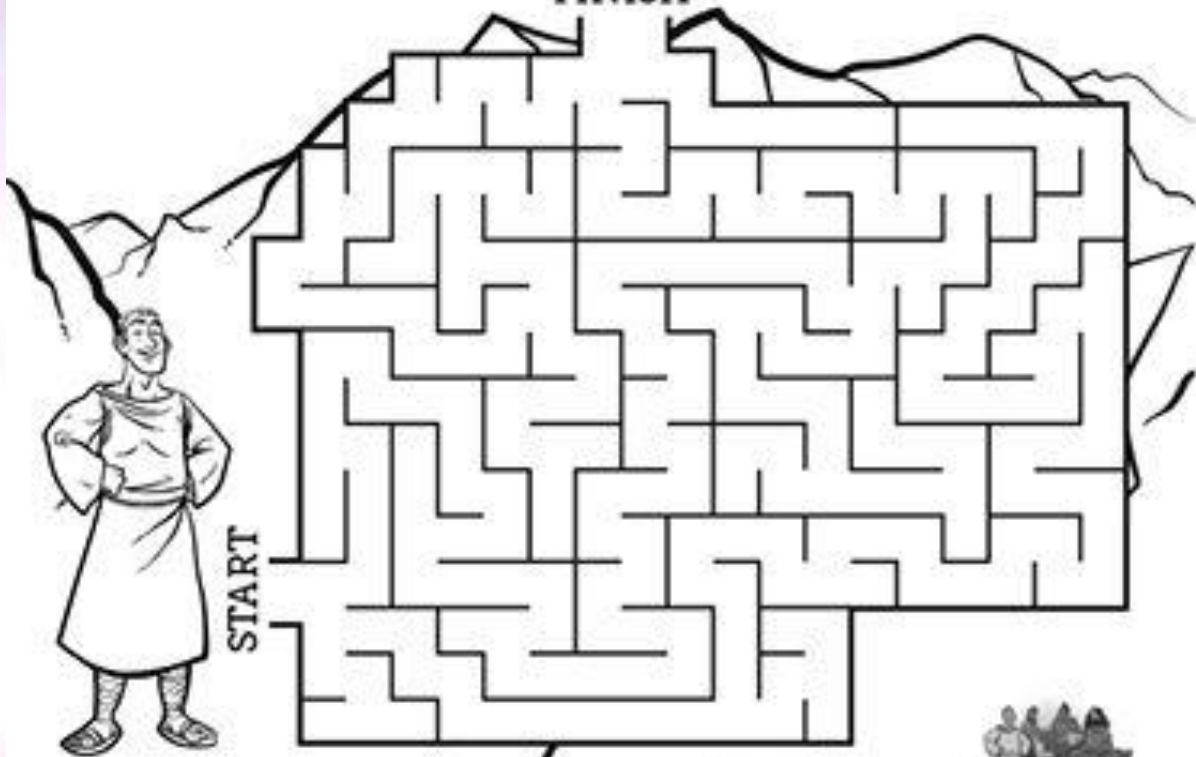
Activity:

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

Lead the Roman to Christ.



FINISH



© ShantakMMA. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction or Reselling Prohibited. Not for use without an active ShantakMMA subscription.