



Love God!



THE MISSION AIM

God calls us to love Him with everything we have.



KEY VERSE

Luke 10:27a: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind..."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- 12 envelopes with the words from Luke 10:27a written out in puzzle pieces (about two pieces per envelope) (Luke 10:27a "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind...")
- Paper to cut into hearts of various sizes (sample of a heart creature/design) <http://www.makeandtakes.com/heart-shaped-animals>
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paper for gluing creatures or designs onto



Squad Leader if you have a smaller squad you may want to give each recruit an envelope with the whole verse cut up into puzzle pieces to complete on their own.

Directions

SAY: Welcome, I hope you've had a great week. This week we will be talking about how we can love the Lord with our whole being. Our key verse is awesome! It talks about loving God with our whole being. Around the room (any space you are comfortable with), we have hidden 12 envelopes. Your task is to go and find the envelopes and then try to piece together our memory verse for the week. Now if you'd prefer to do something different, there are several pieces of paper on the table and some scissors. You can use the paper to cut out some hearts of various sizes and then glue them together to create various heart creatures or designs.

DO: Help cut out hearts if needed to help with time constraints.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Heart to God, Hand to Man Episode 1: Love God!"

Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have HTG-Episode_1-Love_God.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- Have an enlarged picture of a body with empty places to add a heart, brain, muscles and a hand to hold a Bible (use the sample provided – see attachment pages 7 and 8); cut outs of a heart, brain, muscles and a Bible (with the key verse written on it - Luke 10:27a – "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind...") that have enough space to do some written brainstorming
- Pencils or markers
- Copy of template for small group discussion (one per group) (see attachment pages 9-10)
- Tape to tape on body pieces
- Blind folds (large handkerchief, tie)



Mission Assignment

SAY: Love, what a great topic eh? It seems like in this day and age we don't really know what love is or we get such a crazy view of it. I think Michael really wants us to think about that love though and how we love God, how we love Him deeply. Let's look at that verse again.

DO: Read Luke 10:27a aloud.

SAY: Well, that is a great summary of how we can love God but I think we'd better find out what our mission is; it looks like there is quite a bit to this. Let's have a drum roll please for Mission #1... (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Take apart Luke 10:27 to find out what it really means to love God with all of your heart, soul, strength and mind."

SAY: Wow! That sounds like fun. I love taking things apart and putting them back together again. Of course, I don't always get them back together the way I want but hey... any way, I'm getting off topic here. Okay, so let's do a quick review, we love the Lord with all our heart... tap your heart, we love Him with all our soul... say BIBLE everyone, we love Him with all our strength... show me your muscles and we love Him with all our mind... tap your head.



SAY: Some of you may have noticed there is a very sad looking figure over here on the wall. She is a girl but could very well be a guy. Her heart is missing, just like the Tin man in the Wizard of Oz. Her muscles are so weak that they barely exist and she's lost her mind, just like the poor Scarecrow in Oz who doesn't have a brain. So sad! I think that we'd better spend some time helping this poor girl get her life together.

SAY: We're going to spend the next few minutes in small groups where you will think of ways that we can love God using our hearts, souls, strength and mind.

DO: Put the recruits into groups with a leader or older recruit. Have them use the suggested ideas on the worksheet provided. Walk around to make sure all the groups are on task. Give the groups about seven minutes of work time.

SAY: Now that you've had a chance to brainstorm your ideas, let's share together.

DO: Give each group a chance to share their brainstorm.

SAY: Okay, now it's time to put this girl together again. Choose one person from your group who's willing to be blindfolded who can come and pin your part on the girl.

DO: Give each group a chance to "pin" their parts on the girl. The Bible can go in her hand.

SAY: So we know that loving God takes our whole being. Every part of us is involved in loving Him. That's amazing!

SAY: Let's send our Intel to the team and see what they're up to.

DO: Take a "photo" of our young lady and send it to the team.



If you do not have enough recruits to divide into four groups, have the entire group brainstorm for each section or have two recruits to two sections, etc.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.





Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Invite a member or two of your congregation to come and share how they love God; use the sample interview template to help them prepare (see attachment page 11)
- Copies of person template for each recruit (similar to the large model in Mission Assignment # 1) (see attachment on page 12)
- Pencils



Mission Assignment

SAY: Hey, weren't those incredible examples of people loving God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength? Well, there are people everywhere who are such great examples of loving God. Let's get specific and find out what Mission #2 is... Clap twice and let's see if the mission will come up on the screen. (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Find out about REAL people showing REAL love for God and how they do it."

SAY: What an honour it is for me to introduce _____ to you. He/she has been willing to come and join us today as we talk about this huge topic of love. Based on what I have seen in his/her life I really feel that he/she shows love for God and that is why I brought him/her today.

SAY: As _____ shares with us, you will have the chance to write or draw on your own mini-person. When we looked at our poor girl over on the wall we showed ways that we could show God that we love Him with our heart, soul, mind and strength. As _____ talks with us about his/her life I'd like you to write or draw ways that you see him/her loving God with his/her heart, soul, mind and strength. For example, if you hear him/her talk about how he/she studies the Bible you might want to draw or write what you heard on the Bible or brain of your person. Don't worry so much about where you put your ideas just be sure to include them on your person somewhere so that you can refer back to them later.

DO: Give your guest(s) a chance to share and then review some of the love concepts that you have heard.

SAY: Wow! How great it is to have such examples of love in our midst. Since they are such great leaders and examples I'd like us to take a few minutes to pray for _____ and to ask if they will pray for us as we journey together in loving God more and more.





Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (3/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Quiet music and player
- Oil for prayer time (even just a bit of olive oil) and small cups to divide it up for each leader who is praying

Directions

SAY: I'd like a few of you to come over here and put your hands on (name of guest) _____ shoulder as we pray that God will continue to bless and use him/her to share His love.

DO: Pray for your guest(s). Encourage a recruit to pray if possible.

SAY: Now as your leaders, recruits, we as a team would like to pray for you. We are going to play some quiet music and as we do you can line up in front of us as we bless you and ask God to show you how you can love Him more. If you are okay with it, we are going to finish by using oil to make the sign of the cross on your forehead or hand, whichever you are comfortable with to seal our prayers for you and to ask that God will really work in you to help you love Him more. There is no special power in the oil but it is a symbol of God's desire that you love Him well and that one day you will be seen as an example of His love.

SAY: Thanks so much for coming to join us today _____ (name of visitor). We'd better send our information back to the team now. Everyone, hold up your picture of yourself with ways that you can love the Lord your God and say, "Here it goes!"

SAY: Alright recruits, we'd better get back to the team and see what's up!



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (4/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.





Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Each recruit needs their copy of their “person”
- Pencil crayons or markers
- Paper for brainstorming

Mission Project

SAY: Okay recruits now we get down to the nitty gritty and make this real for you and for us. Let’s have a drum roll for Mission # 3... (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) “Recruits, take time to reflect on how you can love God in everything this week and plan a project together that can show your love to God.”

SAY: Well I’d like you to take out your “person”. We have spent some time today thinking about and hearing about how we can love God. You have some ideas written down on your person. You may already show your love for God in ways that we talked about today but there may be some areas that you haven’t thought of. Over the next few minutes, I’d like you to pray about how you feel God would like you to show Him that you love Him. When you have an idea or two, use a coloured pencil or marker to write down one or two ways that you are going to show God you love Him this week. For example, you may not have thought that having a bad attitude at school isn’t very loving to God, or that when you don’t listen to your parents you are not loving God very well.

DO: Give the recruits a few minutes to think and record. If there are any recruits who need some help, please provide scribes for them.

SAY: Great work everyone. I’m looking forward to showing God how much I love Him this week. Now our mission did say that we should plan a project together to show our love to God. Let’s just take a moment now to share some ideas of how we as a team can share our love for God. (Write notes of encouragement to leaders in the church or shut-ins, a seasonal project – house cleaning, snow shovelling, lawn maintenance, sharing what they have learned today in church)

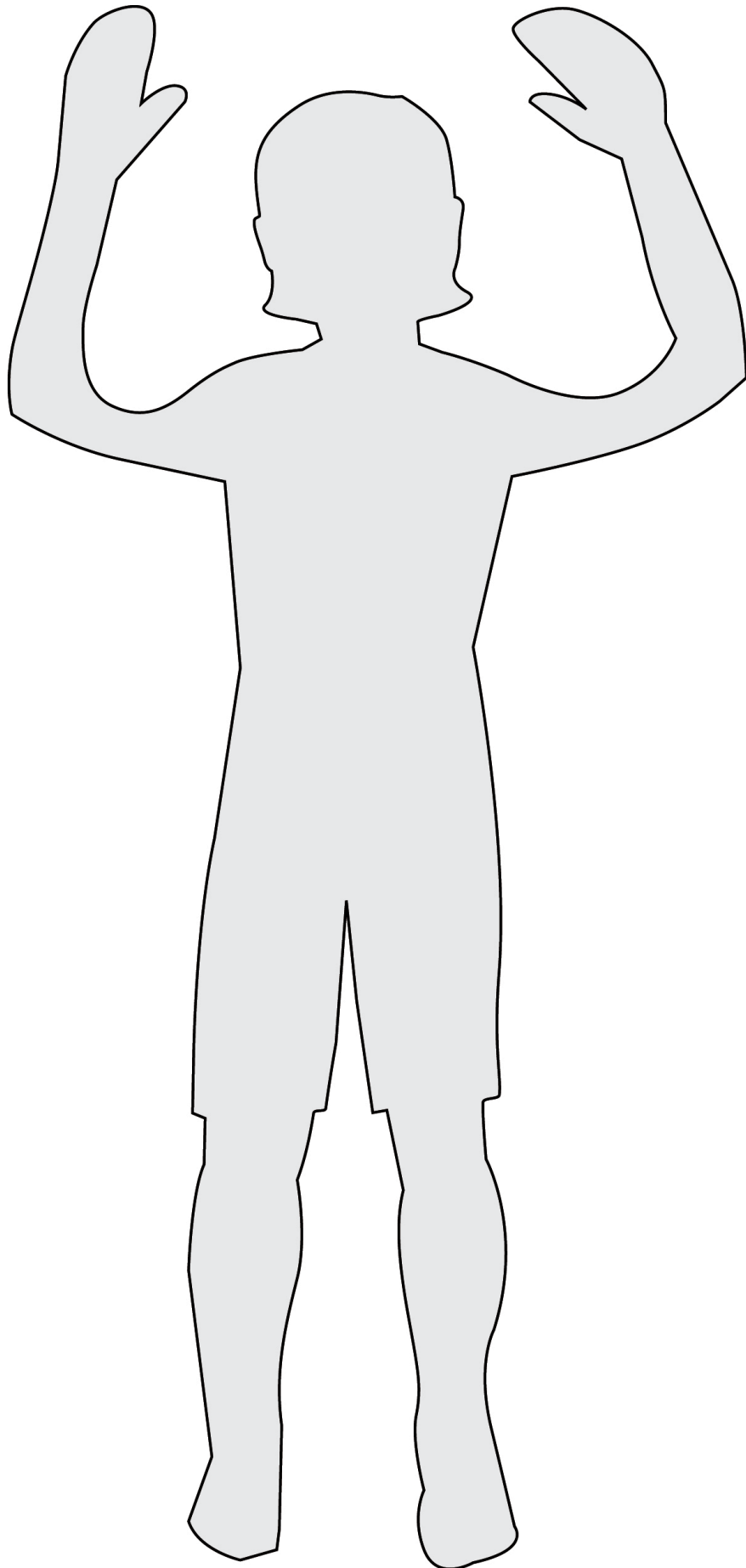
DO: Take the recruits’ ideas down on a sheet of paper to have as a reference. Just spend about five minutes brainstorming and be prepared to implement one or two of their ideas throughout the next week or so.

SAY: What a week! I hope you realize how exciting it is to be able to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength! Until next week, keep focusing, and keep loving. Let’s pray.

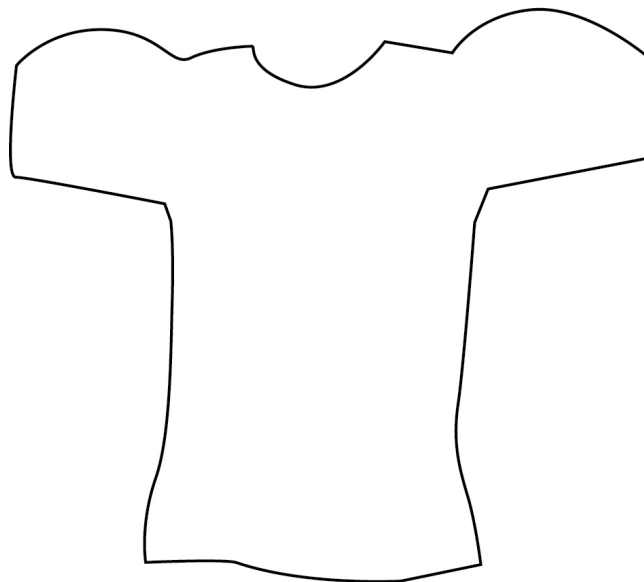
DO: Pray over the recruits as they head out.



Person Template



Person Add-Ons



Small Group Discussions about Heart, Soul, Mind, Strength

Use the questions below to help stimulate discussion about how we can love God with every part of us. (The responses in brackets are just ideas)

1. Heart: (As recruits give their responses have someone write down their ideas on the heart provided)

SAY: How can you love God with all of your heart? Let's define that as your emotions or feelings, your attitude and your willingness to obey.

SAY: When you are feeling down or sad, how can you worship? (be willing to go to God and pray, tell Him how you feel)

SAY: What about when you are happy? (thank God for what has brought you joy, thank Him that He has given you so much)

SAY: How would you show love to God by your attitude and obedience? (being grumpy and annoyed at having to do something for your parents or for RTS might not be such a loving attitude; helping out around the house without being asked would show love; serving others cheerfully)

2. Soul: (As recruits give their responses have someone write down their ideas on the Bible provided)

SAY: How can you love God with all your soul? In other words how can you love God specifically in your relationship with Him, in the way you pray, read your Bible, worship Him, show the fruit of the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control?

SAY: What kind of attitude should you have when you read the Bible? How can you read the Bible? (Use the RTS site to give you ideas for reading, some of your Bibles have specified readings that you can use, set aside a time each day for reading the Bible and praying)

SAY: How can you show love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control? (How do you get along with your friends and family? Is there a relationship that you find really hard?)

3. Mind: (As recruits give their responses have someone write down their ideas on the brain provided)

SAY: How can you love God with your mind? What do you spend time focusing your brain on? What can you study to show you love God? What kind of books should you read? What should you think about? How much time do you spend on the internet, on video games etc.? Are the games you choose helpful for making you a better person?

4. Strength: (As recruits give their responses have someone write down their ideas on the muscles provided)

SAY: How can you love God with all of your strength? It says in the Bible that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19).

SAY: How can you take care of your physical body? (Eat the right food, exercise, and stay away from dangerous substances)

SAY: How else could you use your body to serve God? (Garden, running, helping someone shovel their driveway or clean their car etc.)

SAY: What kind of energy and enthusiasm do you have when it comes to serving God? Do you put the same amount of energy into doing things for God as you do in the other activities that you do?

Interview Preparation Questions

Thank you so much for being willing to come and join us at RTS as we learn about how to love God with our whole being.

We are studying Luke 10:27a and what it means to love God with our whole being. When we thought of loving God with our heart, soul, mind and strength we were reminded of you because you are a good example of God's love.

Below I have included some questions to help guide your thinking so that when you come to share with us you will feel more comfortable and prepared.

1. How would you say that you love God with your heart? How do you say you love God with your emotions or feelings, your attitude and your willingness to obey? What do you do when you don't have a positive attitude?

2. How would you say that you love God with your soul? In other words how do you love God specifically in your relationship with Him? What do you do to stay close to Him? This could relate to Bible study, prayer etc.

3. How do you love God with your mind? (studying, what you focus your mind on, how to avoid the trap of setting your mind on things that are distracting)

4. How do you love God with all of your strength? It says in the Bible that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). How do you use your body to glorify God? (i.e. gardening, running, helping elderly run errands) What are some things you do to take care of yourself?

