

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What would it look like to love only with our words?
- Why does God want us to love with our actions?
- How can you show love to your family members, friends, neighbors, or classmates?

Children of God

1 John 2-3

STORY POINT: CHILDREN OF GOD LOVE ONE ANOTHER WITH THEIR ACTIONS.

Jesus' disciple John wrote a letter to Christians. "Little children," he wrote, "I am writing to you so you will not sin. But if you do sin, Jesus speaks to the Father for us. Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins."

John said that when we are part of God's family and truly know God, we keep God's commands.

John also wrote, "See how much the Father loves us! He calls us His own children—and that is what we are! We are children of God."

John said that people who are God's children live differently than people who are not God's children. Believers do what is right, and they love one another. This was not a new message. Jesus told us to love one another too. John wrote that others will know we are Christians because we show love to one another.

We know what love is because Jesus showed us. He laid down His life for us. Because of Jesus' power, we can—and should—love like that too.

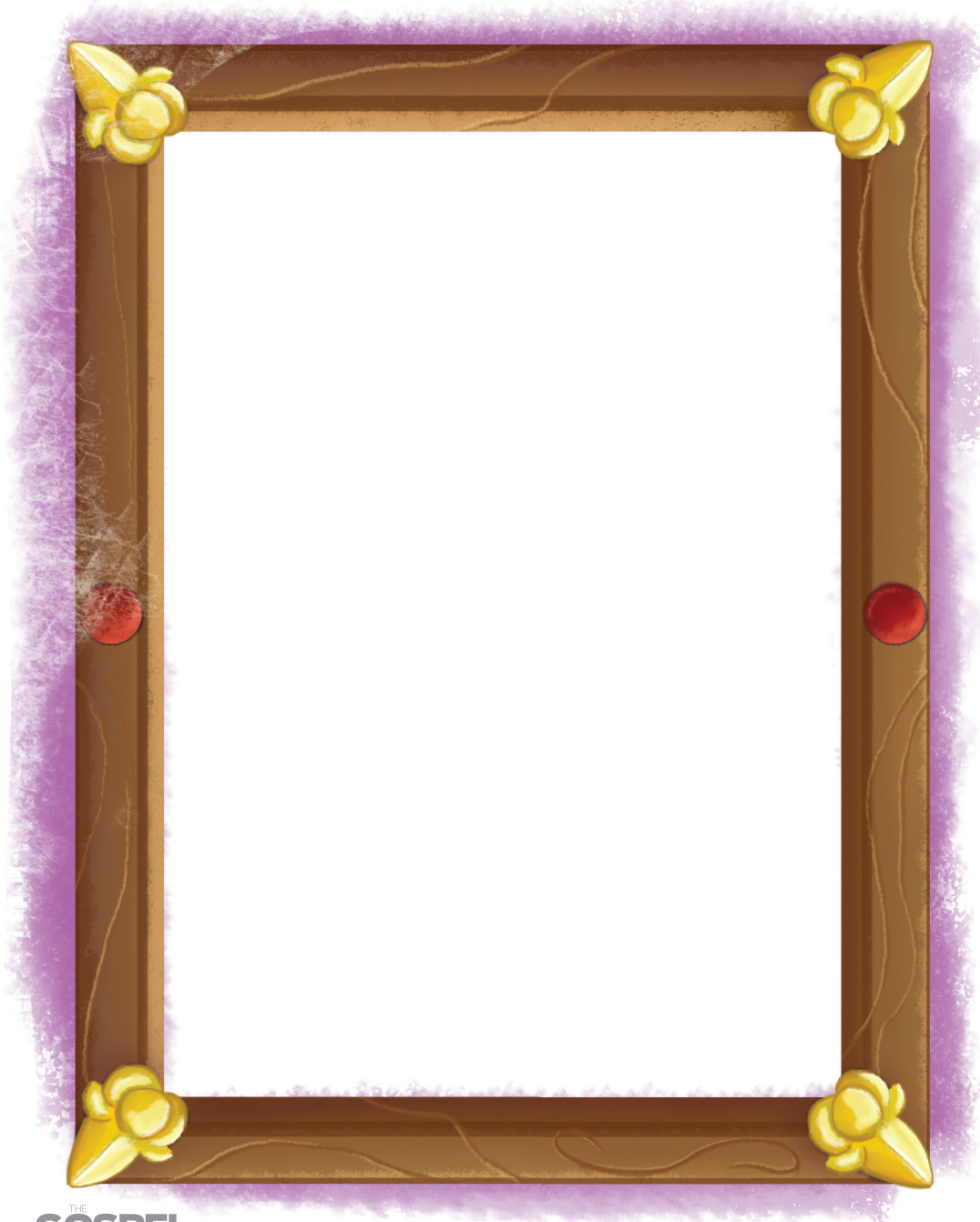
John said that we must not just talk about loving others. We must love them by our actions and by telling them the truth. "Little children," he said, "let us not just say that we love others. Let's show our love by what we do."

Christ Connection: John wrote a letter to teach believers in the church—the children of God—about the importance of showing love. Love is more than feelings or words; it is an action. Jesus showed God's love for us when He died on the cross to rescue people from sin.



FOLD

A Child of God | Draw a picture of yourself. Label it with your name.



A Message from John

Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

All Christians are children of _____.

MARY / GOD

Being a child of God is like living in _____ instead of in darkness.

LIGHT / HOUSES

Jesus told us to _____ one another.

TEASE / LOVE

Jesus laid down His _____ for us.

HAT / LIFE

When we have something that our brother needs, we should _____ it to him.

GIVE / SELL

Love is more than feelings or words; it is an _____.

EMOTION / ACTION