

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 07 June 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** Fruit of the Spirit / Love – Mary shows her love for Jesus
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Galatians 5:16-26; Matthew 26:6-13; John 12:1-8
- **CONCEPT:** The Holy Spirit helps me be loving

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that God's Holy Spirit living in us makes us more like Jesus.
- To invite kids to give Jesus their hearts in an act of love.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure chest with flashlight inside (from last week's activity)
- ✓ Fruit tree picture (find this online using a search engine and save the image to your computer)
- ✓ Basket of fruit with at least nine pieces of fruit (real or artificial)
- ✓ Slide showing the word 'love'
- ✓ Jar/bottle of fragranced oil/perfume/bath gel
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box

A. Worship through Music (with puppets) 1. Welcome kids. 2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>Supernatural / Everyday</i>). 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to get their mats and sit down.	8 minutes	You'll need ... <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i>
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B. Message 1. Recap Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the flashlight you placed there last week. Ask for someone to explain what the flashlight should remind us of in last week's story. Ask a few follow-up questions to recap the story of Saul's meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. Saul was a bad man. He hated Christians. He wanted to kill Christians. But after Saul met Jesus – the bright light from heaven – on the road to Damascus, he was changed. Saul realised that Jesus is the Son of God. Saul realised that what he was doing to the believers was terribly wrong! He could see that his heart was bad and sinful, and he understood that Jesus could take away his sin and make him clean, ready for heaven. After Ananias came to visit, Saul was so happy and excited. He wanted everyone to know the massive change that Jesus had made in his heart. Saul told everyone he met that they too could follow Jesus and have Him as their best friend if they prayed, said sorry for the wrong things they had done, and asked Him to come into their hearts and lives. In fact, after Saul left Damascus, he spent the rest of his life telling other people the great news of Jesus Christ. If you have time, you could also recap last week's Bible verse, or refer to it if you displayed it in your room: <i>I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you ... (Ezekiel 36:26)</i> Finish by eliciting the concept: The Holy Spirit can change my life. 2. Transition Saul worked really hard to tell people about Jesus. He was one of the first of Jesus' followers to become a missionary. Do you know what a missionary is? Someone who leaves home and moves to another town or another country to help other people learn about Jesus. Now, 'Saul' was a Jewish name – which was fine when Saul was living in and around Jerusalem. But Saul wanted to go further than Jerusalem. He wanted to go and talk to people in Turkey and Greece and Italy, people who would know him by a Roman name, not a Jewish name. And so, Saul's name changed to Paul. The same man, just with a different name. Paul travelled to different countries and islands all around the Mediterranean Sea, excited and happy to tell the people who lived there the great news about God's plan to save them through Jesus. Now, if you didn't know about Paul's amazing life story of travelling to other countries to talk about Jesus, you might have guessed it. Remember what God said to Ananias? God wanted Ananias to go and find Saul, with his blind eyes, and be there when Saul's eyes were healed. Ananias was scared, but God said, "Ananias, go and find Saul. I have chosen him to do a very important job for me. He believes in me	15 minutes	You'll need ... <i>Treasure chest / flashlight</i>
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now, and he's going to tell many, many people about me." (Acts 9:15 paraphrased) We should know by now that whatever God says *always* comes true ... Saul, whose name changed to Paul, was filled with God's Holy Spirit. And the Holy Spirit changed Paul's life, the Holy Spirit made Paul strong and brave, and the Holy Spirit helped Paul tell lots and lots of people about Jesus.

Paul wrote letters to the Christians in those foreign countries he visited. We can read these letters in the Bible. Paul's letters teach us lots of important things about Jesus and about being a Christian. Paul wrote about the Holy Spirit and what it means to have the Holy Spirit living inside you. He wrote in one of his letters that if someone has the Holy Spirit living inside them, then people will be able to see certain things in that person. Kind of like a fruit tree (*show fruit tree on screen*) – if a fruit tree is planted in good soil, gets enough water, enough food from the earth, and enough light, then it will grow tall and strong with lush, green leaves and delicious fruit for everybody to see (*show kids a basket of various fruit*). Think of yourself as a tree – if you are planted and rooted in God, if you believe in Him and trust Him, if you try to live for Him each day, read your Bible and pray to learn more about Him, then you will grow into the person God wants you to be, (*lift up a different piece of fruit from your basket as you say each character trait*) loving and joyful, peaceful and patient, kind and good, faithful, gentle and self-controlled. This is the fruit of the Holy Spirit living in us.

3. Set the scene

Today, we're going to talk about *love*. *Show the word 'love' on screen.*

Initiate discussion. What is love? How do you show you love someone? How do you know if someone loves you? *Allow kids to answer.*

Some other children were asked to explain what love means and here's what some of them said:

Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne (aftershave) and they go out and smell each other.

Love is when someone hurts you. And you get so mad but you don't yell at them because you know it would hurt their feelings.

Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.

Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.

Love is when Mummy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken.

(<http://www.jokeawhenever.com/inspirational/47-a-childs-view-of-love.html>)

We can show someone we love them by giving them a present, or doing something very special for them, right? Today, we're going to hear about a lady who gave a very precious gift to Jesus. Her name was Mary.

4. Tell the story

Mary lived in a town called Bethany, not far from Jerusalem. She was very excited. She was getting ready to go to a dinner at her friend Simon's house. Simon had invited *Jesus* for dinner! Some more of Jesus' friends would be there too. Mary was busy, getting herself ready to go out, making sure she had everything she needed in her

Fruit tree picture

Basket of fruit (at least 9 pieces of fruit)

Slide: Love

bag. Then, she made the short walk to Simon's house.

All the friends were so happy to welcome Jesus to this special dinner. Mary loved to sit and listen to Jesus' stories. She loved talking to Him. She always learnt so much from Him. Jesus made her feel alive inside. Mary went to find her bag. She stopped for a moment. This was such a special time for the friends to be together with Jesus. She listened to their voices, talking and laughing. She watched her sister, Martha, busy serving the food and clearing away the dishes. She saw her brother, Lazarus, sitting at the table with Jesus, enjoying the conversation. Mary reached into her bag and lifted out a jar of very expensive perfume. *Show kids a jar or bottle filled with fragranced oil or bath gel.* She walked across the room to where Jesus was sitting, got down on her knees, poured out the whole jar of perfume on Jesus' feet, and then she wiped his feet with her long hair.

The whole house was filled with the beautiful smell of this very expensive perfume. Everyone in the house breathed in the smell and sat for a moment, looking at Mary, looking at Jesus' feet, looking at the empty jar. All of a sudden, the silence was broken.

"MARY! What have you done? What a waste! This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor. It was worth a whole year's wages! But look, there's hardly a drop left in the jar. What a waste! *What a waste!*" (paraphrase Matthew 26:8-9; John 12:5)

Jesus held up His hands to stop them from complaining. "Leave her alone," He said. "She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me." Jesus told His friends that Mary was preparing His body to be buried, after He would die for them. The friends didn't understand what Mary had just done, but Jesus knew that she was worshipping Him, showing Him how much she loved Him, in the best way she could.

5. Explain

Mary gave the most precious and expensive gift she had to Jesus because she loved Him so much. It took a whole year of work to earn enough money to buy this perfume! Mary could have kept it for herself, but she gave it all, not just a little bit, to Jesus. And Jesus told His friends in Simon's house that day, that what Mary had done for Him was so special and important that it would be told to people all around the world ... and here we are, still talking about Mary's gift to Jesus today in our country.

So why is this so important for us? Well, Jesus wants us to give Him the best gift we have. And the best gift each one of us has is our heart. Our whole heart. Not just a little part of it. Not just on Sundays when we come to The Island. Jesus wants all of us, every day. Do you love Jesus enough to give Him your heart?

Jesus gave us the best present ever when He died in our place on the cross. He loved us so much that He went through pain and death to make a way for you and I to get to heaven. If you tell Jesus you're sorry for the bad things you have done and ask Him to take away your sin and come live in your heart, then He will make you clean and new, ready for heaven. His Holy Spirit will help you to live for Him every day

Jar/bottle of fragranced oil/perfume/bath gel

<p>so you can tell others about the good news of Jesus. Do you love Jesus, like Mary did, enough to give Him your heart?</p> <p>And if you have <i>already</i> given Jesus your heart, do you still love Him enough to do whatever He asks you? Mary could have kept the expensive perfume. She could have sold it and bought new clothes with the money. She could have done lots of other things, but she chose to give it all up for Jesus. Do you love Jesus enough to help out at church instead of staying home and watching TV? Do you love Jesus enough to share your food or your toys or your money with someone who doesn't have as much as you? Do you love Jesus enough to help your Mum and Dad at home when they need you instead of going out to play?</p> <p>Let's remember the story of Mary and her perfume, and be ready to show Jesus we love Him by sharing His love with others.</p>	
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<p>C. Prayer Net 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we <i>pray</i> – We talk to God and He listens. 2. Explain that prayer / talking to God is very important because that's how we get to know Him. 3. Choose a child to retrieve the prayer net. Lift out the prayer cards you put there last week. Ask the kids for updates on those situations. 4. <i>Explain:</i> When we have something to be thankful for, or something we worry about, we need to tell God about those things. What are some ways we could show God's love to someone this week? Let's ask God to help us do those things. 5. Tell kids that we are going to make a note of some special prayers today and put them in the prayer net. Next week they will tell us what happened in those situations. 6. Ask a few kids if they have a prayer to put into the net. As they tell you, write their name and the topic of their prayer on a small card. Ask the child to say a prayer aloud (help them to do so) before they place their card into the prayer net. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Net (with last week's prayer cards)</i></p> <p><i>Small cards / postcards</i></p> <p><i>A pen</i></p>
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<p>D. Conclusion (with puppets) 7 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to put their mats away. 2. <i>Recap:</i> Mary gave the most precious and expensive gift she had to Jesus because she loved Him so much. She could have kept it for herself, but she gave it all, not just a little bit, to Jesus. Let's put the perfume jar into the treasure chest. We'll take it out next week to remind us of Mary's love for Jesus. Remember to show God's love to someone you know this week. 3. Sing a closing song. (Everyday) 4. Remind kids to come back this evening. 5. Ask kids to put their name tags in the box before they leave. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Treasure chest</i></p> <p><i>Jar/bottle of fragranced oil/perfume/bath gel</i></p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i></p> <p><i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i></p>
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THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADER	DATE (pm) 07 June 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce today's Bible concept by learning a related Scripture verse.
- To consolidate today's Bible story by making a strawberry perfumed love gift.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Memory Verse Task:
 - Fruit tree picture
 - Slide – Galatians 5:22 (first fruit)
 - Hopscotch grid – you could draw this on the ground outside with chalk if weather permits. If indoors, use masking tape to form a grid on the floor, or coloured foam square mats, or squares of card/heavy paper. You will need 13 squares in a 1-2-1-2-1-2-1 pattern. For pattern, see <http://www.sums.co.uk/hopscotch.jpg>

✓ Activity:

Tables

Pre-made card strawberry labelled 'love' (which you will later fix to a new notice board display. See photos below.)

Pre-made bubble bath gift – for recipe, see

<http://www.momsbudget.com/beautyrecipes/strawberrybubblebath.html>

½ cup unscented baby shampoo

¾ cup water

15 drops strawberry essential or fragranced oil

½ teaspoon table salt

(Adjust quantities according to the number of kids)

Bowl

Unscented baby shampoo

Spoon or whisk

Table salt

Red food colouring

Small plastic bottles with lids

Colouring pens/pencils

Measuring cups

Water

Teaspoon

Strawberry fragranced oil

Funnel

Self-adhesive address labels

Sheets of cellophane

Elastic bands
Scissors

Lengths of curling ribbon

- ✓ Strawberries – pre-washed and ready to eat; at least one per child
- ✓ Name tag box

E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 8 minutes 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing two songs together. (Supernatural / Everyday) 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to get their mats and sit down.	You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)
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F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes <i>"... the fruit of the Spirit is love ..." (Galatians 5:22)</i> 1. Ask a few questions to recap today's story of Mary showing her love for Jesus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where did Mary live? <i>Bethany, not far from Jerusalem</i> - Mary was getting ready to go out. Where was she going and why? <i>Her friend Simon's house – Simon was having a dinner for Jesus</i> - What did Mary do that was so shocking? <i>She poured a jar of expensive perfume over Jesus' feet and wiped His feet with her hair</i> - The others were not too happy with Mary. What did they say to her? <i>What a waste! This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor. It was worth a whole year's wages! But look, there's hardly a drop left in the jar. What a waste!</i> - Jesus was not angry with Mary. He understood why she had done it. What did Jesus explain to the others? <i>Jesus said, "She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me." Jesus told His friends that Mary was preparing His body to be buried, after He would die for them. The friends didn't understand what Mary had just done, but Jesus knew that she was worshipping Him, showing Him how much she loved Him, in the best way she could.</i> 2. <i>Explain:</i> Mary gave the most precious and expensive gift she had to Jesus because she loved Him so much. It took a whole year of work to earn enough money to buy this perfume! Mary could have kept it for herself, but she gave it all, not just a little bit, to Jesus. Jesus wants us to share His love with others too, but we first need to ask Jesus to come into our lives and help us to do that. 3. <i>Explain:</i> When we ask Jesus to live in our hearts, He sends His Holy Spirit to be with us. We can't see the Holy Spirit, but He is	You'll need ...
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part of God too – just like Jesus is God, God the Son, so the Holy Spirit is the part of God that He sends to live in us. When Paul's life was changed and he started travelling around different countries telling people about Jesus, he wrote letters to help people understand more about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Paul wrote in one of his letters that if someone has the Holy Spirit living inside them, then people will be able to see certain things in that person. Kind of like a fruit tree (*show fruit tree on screen*) – if a fruit tree is planted in good soil, gets enough water, enough food from the earth, and enough light, then it will grow tall and strong with lush, green leaves and delicious fruit for everybody to see. Think of yourself as a tree – if you are planted and rooted in God, if you believe in Him and trust Him, if you try to live for Him each day, read your Bible and pray to learn more about Him, then you will grow into the person God wants you to be, loving and joyful, peaceful and patient, kind and good, faithful, gentle and self-controlled. This is the fruit of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Fruit tree picture

4. *Explain:* Today we heard the story of Mary's love for Jesus, and how the Holy Spirit helps us to be loving. If we love Jesus enough to give Him our hearts, the Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us show God's love to the people around us. That's what our memory verse says. *Show verse on screen and read aloud together:* "...the fruit of the Spirit is love ..." Galatians 5:22.

*Memory verse slide
(Galatians 5:22)*

5. Repeat verse a few times together as a group, and individually, until you feel kids know it well. *Move to a blank screen.*

6. *Explain:* Who knows what hopscotch is? Have you ever played it? Let me show you today's memory verse hopscotch. *Take kids to a larger room and show them your pre-prepared grid.* Here is our grid. Everyone will take their turn to hop and jump along the hopscotch grid. But as you hop and jump, you must say the memory verse! Just like this. *Demonstrate so kids understand what you mean – hop onto first square and say 'the'; jump onto next two squares and say 'fruit'; hop onto next square and say, 'of'; etc., until you reach the last square and say 'chapter 5 verse 22'. Turn around. Say:* Once you have reached the last square and said the verse correctly, then you can turn around and hopscotch back to the start square. *Again, demonstrate hopping and jumping back down the grid. Say:* When you finish, sit down in a line at the side of the room.

Hopscotch grid

7. Have kids line up at the starting square of your hopscotch grid.
8. Have kids repeat the verse once altogether to refresh their memories.
9. Help kids take turns to complete the hopscotch grid while saying the verse. Make sure they sit at the side when they finish.
10. Finish with a group repetition of the verse.
11. Tidy away your hopscotch grid. Take kids back to your room and have them put their mats away.

Idea: After the session, you could write the memory verse onto a sheet of card to make a poster for your room. This will add to your decoration as well as reminding kids of the Bible concept. Then you can also refer to it later in the series.

<p>G. Activity 15 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set out tables as a workspace and have kids find a space around them. 2. <i>Explain:</i> Today we've been thinking about love. The love that Mary had for Jesus. The love that Jesus has for us. The love that we can show to others. We've also learnt that the fruit of the Spirit is love. If I think about those two words together – love and fruit – I think of strawberries! <i>Show kids a pre-made card strawberry labelled with 'love' that you will add to your new notice board display.</i> Look at the strawberry. It's red – the colour of love. It's heart-shaped. And it's delicious! I'm going to stick this on the wall a little later. 3. <i>Explain:</i> We're all going to make a love gift today. Here's what it is. <i>Show kids your pre-made bubble bath gift.</i> This is a bit like Mary's perfume jar. It's bubble bath. Can you guess what it smells of? Strawberries! I made strawberry bubble bath and poured it into the bottle. Then I made a nice label to stick onto the bottle. And then I wrapped it up in this fancy paper with a pretty ribbon. I'm going to give this to someone I love – maybe my Mum, maybe a friend. Who will you give your gift to? 4. Let kids watch you make the bubble bath recipe. Mix unscented baby shampoo and water in a bowl. Add salt and strawberry fragranced oil and stir well. Add a few drops of red food colouring. Adjust the quantities according to the number of kids you are working with. 5. Using a funnel, pour the bubble bath into small clean plastic bottles and fix the lids (you could use travel cosmetic containers). 6. Give a bottle of bubble bath to each child. 7. Give a self-adhesive address label to each child. Provide colouring pens and pencils and encourage kids to decorate the labels as creatively as they can – perhaps with the gift recipient's name, with 'Strawberry Bubble Bath', with 'A Love Gift for You', etc. 8. Help kids stick their labels onto the bottles. 9. Give each child a sheet of cellophane, an elastic band and a length of curling ribbon. 10. Help kids to place the bottle in the middle of the cellophane, gather up the edges around the bottle and secure with the elastic band. 11. Help kids tie the curling ribbon to cover the elastic band. 12. Have an adult helper curl kids' ribbons with the blade of scissors. 13. Tidy up and set tables to the side. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p>Tables</p> <p><i>Pre-made card strawberry labelled 'love'</i></p> <p><i>Pre-made bubble bath gift</i></p> <p>Bowl Measuring cups Unscented baby shampoo Water Spoon or whisk Teaspoon Table salt Strawberry fragranced oil Red food colouring Funnel Small plastic bottles with lids Self-adhesive address labels Colouring pens/pencils Sheets of cellophane Elastic bands Lengths of curling ribbon Scissors</p>
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<p>H. Conclusion (with puppets) 7 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite kids to praise God's goodness to us by singing. (Everyday) 2. Close in prayer. 3. Ask kids to recite the memory verse once more altogether. Give 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p>DVD player / projector Song DVD (<i>Hillsong Kids – Supernatural</i>)</p>
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<p>each child a strawberry to remind them that the fruit of the Spirit is love. Remind kids that Mary gave the most precious and expensive gift she had to Jesus because she loved Him so much. She could have kept it for herself, but she gave it all, not just a little bit, to Jesus. Remind them to show God's love to someone they know this week by giving them the strawberry bubble bath they made today.</p>	<p><i>Strawberries (pre-washed)</i></p>
<p>4. Remind kids to come back next week! Ask kids to leave their name tags in the box before they leave.</p>	<p><i>Name tag box</i></p>

