

SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Proper 26B

Please refer to Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines [here](#).



CHILDREN'S ADDRESSES

MAIN POINT

The greatest commandment

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these. Mark 12:30-31

APPLICATION

Commandments

AIDS

Older children or parents to help children who cannot write. Pre-cut paper heart shapes for each child to fold in half – then write on one side "Love God" and the other "Love one another."

ADDRESS

In our Bible reading today a teacher of the law asks Jesus which is the greatest commandment. Which one do you think Jesus said was the most important?

Hold up the half of the heart that says, "Love God."

Jesus answered him, "The most important is this, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength,' this is the greatest commandment."

How do you think we might show our love to God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength?

e.g. worship, prayer, Bible study, singing praises, bringing our offerings, giving thanks for all his blessings.

Do you know what Jesus said next?

Hold up the other half of the heart that says, "Love One Another".

He said, "The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" How do you think we could love our neighbour?

e.g. treat them like we want to be treated, be kind to them, forgive them when they hurt our feelings, be helpful in times of trouble, be their friends.

These are the commandments that Jesus thought were the most important. It isn't easy to keep those commandments, is it? We need God's help each and every day. Let's pray and ask him to help us to love as he has commanded us.

PRAYER

Dear Father, help us to love you with all of our heart, soul mind and strength. Help us to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home, Worship Notes* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

For more information about Grow Ministries and other resources for ministry to children, young people and their families, please contact:

e: growministries@lca.org.au p: (08) 8267 7300 www.growministries.org.au

