**The Christian Value of Love**

**EYFS – Reflection 1**

God is Love

This is a reflection intended to be used around Valentine’s Day, but you could use it at any time of year.  It teaches about God’s Love for everyone.

**You will need:**

**Large hearts cut out of card to allow for two per child and adult**

**On half the hearts, write out the words ‘God loves me’ and keep safe.**

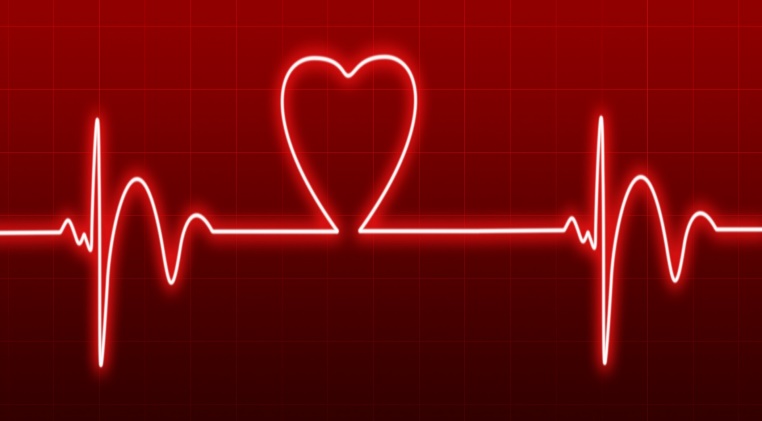
**Some music for the pass the Bible game**

At some stage before the reflection ask the children to decorate the blank hearts **on one side** with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.  Help them to write their names on the hearts.  Collect the hearts when finished.

Prior to the reflection, hide all of the children’s decorated hearts around your room or play space.

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**The reflection**

Show the children some Valentine cards and explain that on Valentine’s Day every year, people sometimes show their love for other people with cards, chocolates, flowers, and kindness.  But there is Someone very special who shows us His love every day.  Can anyone guess who I’m talking about?  (Yes!  God!)   
Explain that in our special book called the Bible, God tells us He loves us all the time, even when we are asleep. The Bible is like a giant Valentine card for all of us.  It teaches us how God wants us to love each other and look after each other. We can feel love beating in our hearts. Show the children how to feel their heart beating.

Tell the children that you have hidden the hearts they designed all around the room.  It’s time for “Hide and Seek Hearts!”  
Show the children an example of what they are looking for.  Tell them that when they hear the music they should return to the carpet with their hearts.  Monitor the search, by ensuring that all children find at least one heart.   
Ask the children to sit in a circle with their heart and place the hearts with ‘God loves me’ on face down in the centre. Tell the children that each of these hearts has a letter from God on. At this point children can keep the heart they found or swap for the one they decorated (be guided by the group).

Tell the children that they are going to play a game like pass the parcel but, instead of a parcel, they are going to pass round God’s special book. Ask them to sit on their carboard heart. As the music plays, the children pass a Bible around the circle (a small Bible works best!)

Everyone cheers when the Bible stops in the hands of each child. When the music stops on a child, they chose a heart from the middle. Read the words God Loves Me to them and clip it to their own decorated heart. Repeat until all the children have a two-sided heart. Include the adults.

Talk to the children about how the Bible has taught them today that God loves everyone, no matter how old, whether they are a girl of a boy, small or tall, etc. Celebrate with a round of applause.

**Closing prayer**

Ask the children to put their hand on their heart while you pray.

Dear God

Thank you for putting your love into our hearts. Thank you for all the people who love me.

Help us to love each other, our friends and our family today.

Amen.