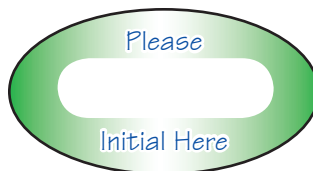


# Coloring Page



Loving our brothers and sisters makes us  
happy inside.

*Parent's Initials:*



PK1

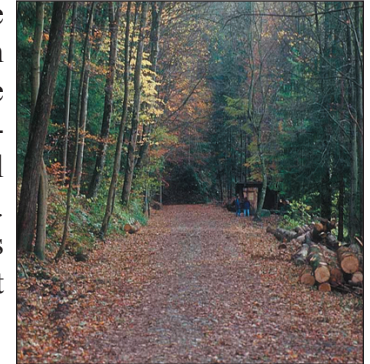
## Relationships in God's Creation

- Lesson Six -

### *Brothers and Sisters (3)* *Loving our Brothers and Sisters*

#### I. Overview.

**W**e naturally love those who are born from our same parents. God created within our nature this natural affection for our family members. To love our brothers and sisters is also related to the second greatest commandment in the Bible.



God put within us  
a natural love for  
our brothers and sisters.

First we must love God with our whole being and then we must love our neighbor as ourself. Loving our brothers and sisters is certainly included in this commandment. This shows how important it is to God that we love our brothers and sisters. The Bible tells us that when we have this kind of love, we abide in the light. We also feel happy and satisfied. When we have anger or hatred toward our brothers and sisters we experience darkness, gloominess and sorrow. God's desire is that we love one another. This also satisfies our inner being.

#### II. Memory Verse.

**"He who loves his brother abides in the light... but he who hates his brother is in the darkness...."**

(1 John 2:10-11)

### III. Lesson.

#### Concerning Our Nature

When God created us He created us with a certain kind of nature. According to this nature, we love those who have been born of the same parents that we were born of. We don't have to try, it is just within us. We naturally love our brothers and sisters and care about what happens to them. If they suffer or are hurt, we share in their pain. We might even become sad and cry when we see them crying. If something or someone tries to harm them we naturally do our best to try to protect them.

#### The Second Greatest Commandment in the Bible

The greatest commandment in the Bible is to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. The second greatest commandment is that we love our neighbor as ourself. Our brothers and sisters are actually our closest neighbors. The Bible teaches us that we must love our brothers and sisters.

#### Our Experience

When we love our brothers and sisters we experience what the Bible calls "abiding in the light." This means that we feel inward joy, satisfaction and brightness. We feel that God is happy and we also are happy. But whenever we become angry with our brothers and sisters and even begin to hate them, we experience being in darkness. We begin to feel sad and unsettled. This also makes God unhappy.



Our brothers and sisters are our closest neighbors.

### Confessing and Loving Again

Whenever we fall into the situation where we are unhappy with our brothers and sisters, we need to confess anything that we have done wrong and any wrong feelings in our heart. God will always forgive us. When we confess the wrong feelings, our heart is cleansed from the wrong feelings and we can begin to love our brothers and sisters again. This brings us back into harmony with our nature – the way we were made. Then we can begin to feel better inside again. God is pleased whenever our heart is soft and loving toward our brothers and sisters. This is also when we are the most happy and the most pleasant to be with.

#### --- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What is the second greatest commandment?  
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2. What happens to us when we begin to be angry with our brother or sister?  
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3. What should we do if we get angry with our brother?  
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4. Where does our love for our brother come from?  
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