



Date: _____
Series: Pass the Promise
Year 1, Lesson 8

Abraham Offers Isaac

Take Home Point: *Lay it on the altar.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Genesis 22. Abraham offers Isaac as a sacrifice.

Key Verse: Hebrews 11:17a: "It was by faith that Abraham offered his son Isaac as a sacrifice." Romans 12:1 "I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to Him." (NCV)

We will help kids know:

- The Bible event of Abraham offering Isaac as a sacrifice.
- God offered Jesus as a sacrifice for the sin of the world.
- We lay our lives on the altar as living sacrifices.

We will help kids feel:

- Awed by the love that God has for us that He would sacrifice His son.
- Tension as they consider what they offer to the Lord as a sacrifice.




We will help kids do:

- See themselves as living sacrifices to God so that what they do brings glory to God.
- Offer in prayer their lives and their treasures to the Lord ("lay it on the altar").
- Receive by faith the gift of Jesus as their sacrifice that God has placed on the altar for them.

Kingdom Quest - Malaysia "Pass the Promise" Series Lesson 8 - 1

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THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3-4	<p>When you give things up to him, God always blesses you and gives you an even better treasure.</p> <p>Tell children a story about giving up their prized possessions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •no supplies needed
Large Group 	4 7-8 9-11 12	<p>Overview</p> <p>Puppet Presentation: "The Great Game Boy Sacrifice"</p> <p>Creative Drama: "Abraham Sacrifices Isaac"</p> <p>Puppet Presentation: "The Great Game Boy Sacrifice" Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dao Dao • Game Boy • a football with a cross drawn on it with masking tape • life-size altar that is big enough to lay a small person on (See supply list for further directions.) • bundle of sticks for the top of the altar. (Two of the sticks need to be proportionate sizes to make a cross.) • sharp fishing knife • costumed Abraham actor
Small Group Application 	5 6	<p>*Lay it on the altar. The children will lay their "hearts" on the "altar" as discussion questions are read.</p> <p>Memory Verse Learning: "Layout the Verse" 2 Cor. 5:7 is learnt for lesson 11-14 to reinforce confidence in trusting the Lord and to live by faith.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • model altar with Honeystars and Rice Krispies creall • 1-inch strips of red, white, and blue paper cut 8½ inches long • stapler for each group • markers, pens, or crayons • five heart-shaped discussion starters (attached to lesson-pp. 12-16) • flannel board • flannel stones • a pile of sticks flannel • flannel fire • flannel word strips

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Supplies needed: no supplies needed

Gather the children in a circle and pass around the prized possessions or favorite toys two children volunteered to bring. Let the kids talk about their favorite toys and most prized possessions. Then ask the following questions.

What would you say if I told you that you had to give up your prized possession or favorite toy? Would you want to give it away to me? Probably not. Would you want to give it away to God?

Today we are going to learn that if there is anything we prize and treasure more than God, he would want us to **lay it on the altar*. God wants us to give those things up to Him. When we do that, God usually gives those things back to us but in a way that the thing is not more important than our relationship with Him. Let me tell you a story.

A young girl named Poh Yee had a special necklace. This necklace was her favorite. As a matter of fact, it was her most treasured possession. But the necklace wasn't really that nice. It was just plastic pearls she had won at a pizza place for kids. The necklace was nice when she first got it but now the plastic was dirty and turning yellow.

Still Poh Yee wore her necklace day and night. Her parents asked her to take it off, but Poh Yee exclaimed, "No, it's my favorite!"

One night before Poh Yee went to sleep, her father sat beside her bed. He talked to her about her necklace. "Poh Yee, please give me your necklace. I know it is important to you, but trust me when I tell you that it is best for you to take the necklace off for a while. Give it to me. You will be glad you did."

At first Poh Yee argued with her father. But then her father gently persuaded her to give him the necklace. "Poh Yee, trust me. It will be okay. Just give me the necklace."

With sadness and a tear in her eye, Poh Yee took her necklace off and handed it to her father. He gave her a hug, but she did not feel much like hugging him back.

"It will be okay, dear," he said. "Just wait and see."

The next morning when Poh Yee awoke, she remembered her necklace. It felt strange to not have it around her neck.

As Poh Yee was getting ready, she noticed a small wrapped box on top of her dresser. When she picked it up she noticed a card attached to it that read, “Happy birthday, Poh Yee. I hope you will find this present makes it worth giving up your precious necklace.”

“What could the present be?” she thought to herself. Quickly she unwrapped the box and there it was...

Kids, what do you think was in the box?

Allow the children time to guess and then continue with the story.

In the box was a beautiful necklace made of *real* pearls. This gift truly was a treasure! Poh Yee now knew what her father was talking about. It was worth giving up her treasured possession because now she had a true treasure.

Discuss the following with the kids.

Is there any thing more important than God in your life? Would God want you to give this thing up to Him?

When you give things up to Him, God always blesses you and gives you an even better treasure. Today’s Bible event is about Abraham giving up his treasure, his son, Isaac.

Large Group: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible Event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Supplies needed: *Dao Dao; Game Boy; a football with a cross drawn on it with masking tape; life-size altar that is big enough to lay a small person on (See supply list for further directions.); bundle of sticks for the top of the altar. (Two of the sticks need to be proportionate sizes to make a cross.); sharp fishing knife; costumed Abraham actor*

Overview

Puppet Presentation: “The Great Game Boy Sacrifice”

Dao Dao wrestles with the idea of giving up his most prized toy. Is it so important to him that he would not make Dao Dao choices with it?

Creative Drama: “Abraham Sacrifices Isaac”

The Bible Event from Genesis 22 is dramatized and foreshadows the sacrifice of Jesus.

Puppet Presentation: “The Great Game Boy Sacrifice” Conclusion

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

- *Supplies needed: model altar with Honeystars and Rice Krispies cereal; 1-inch strips of red, white, and blue paper cut 8½ inches long; stapler for each group; markers, pens, or crayons; five heart-shaped discussion starters (attached to lesson-pp. 15-18)*

Observation, interpretation, and application questions are printed on the paper hearts for application activity. See pages 7-11.

Application Activity:

Each group will need a shoebox or a bucket to be used as a model altar. Inside the “altar” is a box each of Honeystars and Rice Krispies cereal.

Honeystars remind us of the stars, and Rice Krispies remind us of the sand in God’s promise to Abraham in Genesis 22:17:

***“I will surely bless you and give you many descendants.
They will be as many as the stars in the sky and the
sand on the seashore.”***

Each group will have five discussion starters in the shape of a heart. As each discussion occurs, lay the heart on the altar as the Bible verse is read.

The first discussion starter is a review of today’s Bible event in which Abraham laid his son on the altar. The children can use their Bibles to answer the observation and interpretation questions from Genesis 22.

When Genesis 22:17 is read in this discussion starter, hand out the cereals that is inside the “altar.”

This is a picture of how God blesses us as we lay our lives on the altar.

Throughout the discussions for hearts two through four, refer to Romans 12:1, 2 and how we can give our lives as living sacrifices to God. Read it from the Bible and discuss it. Ask questions you feel are appropriate. These are the application questions.

Remember to restate the main point, **lay it on the altar* for Jesus.

Memory Verse Learning: 5 minutes

Purpose: Help kids to memorize and keep scriptures at heart. Using creative ways to help kids enjoy learning the key verse and in small group setting.

Supplies needed: flannel board; flannel stones; a pile of sticks flannel; flannel fire; flannel word strips

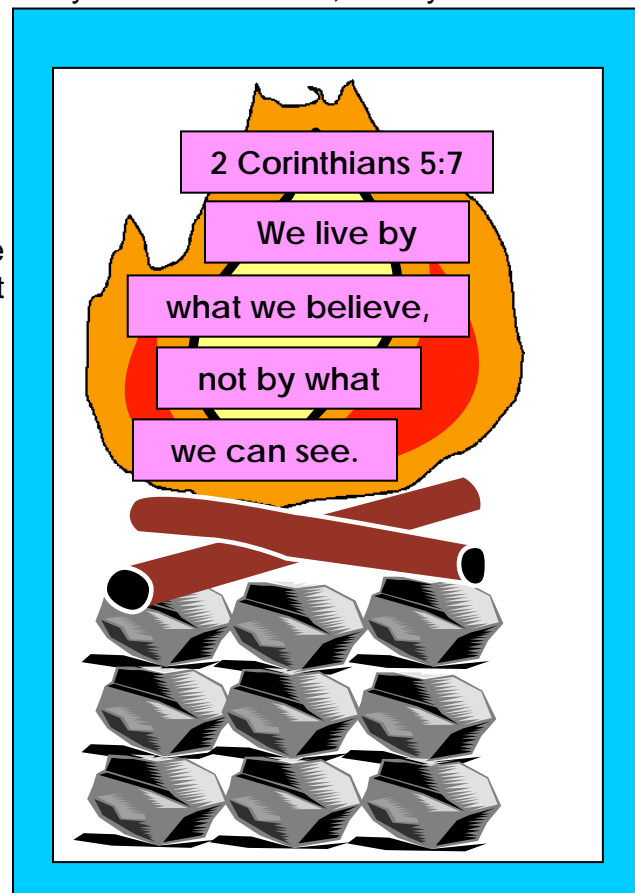
Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:7: “We live by what we believe, not by what we can see.”

MV Presentation: “Layout the Verse”

Lay the flannel board on an easel or chair. Give each child a flannel stone and tell them to help you build an altar. Then shepherd lay the pile of sticks and the fire above it. Mention that this altar is like the altar that Abraham built to offer Isaac as a sacrifice. As you teach the Bible verse, layout the verse one word strip at a time. Each time, have the children repeat several times until the whole Bible verse is put into “memory.”

Prayer Time:

Let the children pray to reaffirm their relationship with Jesus or to receive him as their Savior for the first time. Also allow the children to pray for others who need to meet Jesus as the one who laid his life on the altar for them.



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Large Group Presentation

“The Great Game Boy Sacrifice”

Puppet Presentation

Take Home Point: **Lay it on the altar.*

Teacher: Good morning, kids! *(Shows the kids the “Pass the Promise” football.)* We continue our series “Pass the Promise” as we see how God passes his promise to send a Savior through Abraham. Today God will test Abraham and ask him to lay his most precious thing on the altar as a sacrifice.

Dao Dao: *(Enters with his Game Boy.)* Hi, Teacher! I brought my favorite toy.

Teacher: Cool, Dao Dao. It’s a Game Boy. Can I see it?

Dao Dao: Of course you can’t! It’s *my* toy. Some of us got to bring our favorite toys to Sunday school today.

Teacher: That’s because we are learning that our lives and even the things we own can be sacrifices to God.

Dao Dao: Now wait a minute, Teacher. Are you asking me to lay my Game Boy on some kind of altar to sacrifice it?

Teacher: In a way, yes. God asks that you would lay every thing important to you on the altar as a sacrifice to Him.

Dao Dao: What’s God going to do? Reach down and grab it? What would He do in heaven with a Game Boy?

Teacher: No, that’s not exactly it. When we lay something on the altar it means we give up our control of that thing to God. We want to use that thing for God’s glory.

Dao Dao: I don’t get it, Teacher. Can you give me an example?

Teacher: Okay, Dao Dao. First I’d like for you to give me your Game Boy so I can lay it on the altar. It will be a symbol for all of us that we lay our whole lives on the altar for God.

Dao Dao: Okay, here you go. But you’re almost as bad as my little sister! She wants to play with my Game Boy but I won’t let her—even when I’m not playing with it.

Teacher: Dao Dao, when you lay the Game Boy on the altar that means you are turning it over to God's control. You are saying, "God, use this however you want for your glory."

Dao Dao: How could God use a Game Boy?

Teacher: He could use it by having you share it with someone, especially when you are not using it.

Dao Dao: But she's my *sister*!

Teacher: That's all the more reason to share. Sisters especially need to know their big brothers care about them.

Dao Dao: Wow! This really is a sacrifice.

Teacher: But when you lay it on the altar to God, you are telling Him you trust Him and He can do whatever He wants with your life and everything you own—even your Game Boy. When you do that, God gives you blessings back.

Dao Dao: What kind of blessings would I have from sharing my Game Boy with my sister?

Teacher: I don't know, Dao Dao. Maybe she would share something with you.

Dao Dao: Like a doll? Oh yeah, that's great!

Teacher: Dao Dao, you just need to trust God. When you lay it on the altar for Him to use for His glory, you will be blessed. A Game Boy, as important as it is to you, would not be as hard to lay on the altar as someone's own son.

Dao Dao: What are you talking about?

Teacher: I want to introduce you again to Abraham. He is going to tell us the story of how he had to lay his own son on the altar.

“Abraham Sacrifices Isaac”

Creative Drama

The following first person narrative is an example of how the dramatic presenter might tell Abraham's story. Using a life-sized altar for a prop, have an actor dressed as Abraham reenact the Bible event. If a costumed character is not available, the large group presenter can take the role of a storyteller and tell the story with animation. In either case, the props of a knife and sticks should be used.

Remember me? My name is Abraham. Perhaps you don't for I am older now than when I spoke to you last. I'm over 100 years old.

I remember when I was 100; I was still waiting for God to fulfill the promise that I would have a son. I was ready to give up on His promise, but He came and spoke to me again. *“You will have a son, Abraham, even though your wife is 90 and you are 100. I am God and I can do anything.”*

Wouldn't you know it? After all those years, my wife, Sarah, and I had a son. We named him Isaac, which means “laughter.” We named him that because we laughed when we heard we would have a son at such an old age.

But let me tell you about the strangest announcement I heard from the Lord. He tested me, you see. God said, *“Take your son, Isaac, and go to the mount of Moriah. Lay your son on the altar and burn him as a sacrifice to Me.”*

Can you imagine the thoughts that went through my mind? I loved my son more than life itself. But I had learned to trust God. After all, He had kept His promises to me. If He wanted me to do something, I would do it. I knew one way or the other God would give my son back to me. I even knew God could raise him from the dead if He wanted.

Early in the morning I cut wood for the sacrifice, saddled my donkey, called for my servants, and left for Mt. Moriah with my son, Isaac. For three days we traveled. When we arrived I told my servants, “Wait here. The boy and I will go ahead and worship the Lord. Then we will return.”

I gave the wood to Isaac. In his own hands he carried the wood for the fire and a knife. We walked up the mountain together knowing we would worship the Lord.

Isaac looked at me as he whispered, “Father.”

"Yes, my son," I answered.

"Here is the wood but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" Isaac asked.

I sighed, "God will provide it, my son."

When we came to the place, I built an altar. On the altar I laid the wood. Then I took my son, tied him up, and laid him on the wood.

This made no sense to me. My heart was aching for my son, Isaac. I knew I must give him up to the Lord for I knew the Lord could be trusted.

I took the knife and raised it over my head. Just as I was about to thrust it, the Lord called out, "*Abraham! Abraham!*"

"Here I am!" I cried.

"*Don't!*" God said. "Don't kill your son or hurt him in any way. Now I can see that you respect God. I see that you have not kept your son, you only son, from Me."



Then I heard a rustling noise behind me. Caught by its horns in a thicket was a ram. I took the ram and I slew it. I sacrificed the ram instead of my son. God provided the sacrifice that day.

Isaac and I returned from the mountain. Though God had asked me to lay my own son on the altar, God would ask no other man to sacrifice his own son.

Thousands of years later, the promise of a Savior came true. The Savior came through my descendents and He was the Son of God. He carried the wood of the cross to a place of sacrifice.

What God would ask no man to do, He would do. God sacrificed His own son to pay for our sins. Jesus willingly died in our place.



God raised Jesus from the dead. Through Jesus, God gave the blessings of forgiveness and everlasting life to all who would believe in him.

So let me leave you with this altar and a memory. Remember how God asked me to lay my son on the altar but then gave him back to me? Always remember how God laid His Son on the altar and gave Him to us all. God passed the promise of Jesus to me. So now I pass the promise to you!

“The Great Game Boy Sacrifice”

Puppet Presentation Conclusion

- Teacher:** Well Dao Dao, what did you think? (*Shows the audience the “Pass the Promise” football.*) **Abraham offering to sacrifice his only son is a foreshadowing of God’s sacrifice of His only own Son, Jesus. The promise of a Savior was passed through Abraham.**
- Dao Dao:** Wow! Abraham was willing to put his son on the altar. And that’s *much* more important than a Game boy.
- Teacher:** **Yes, but then God gave Abraham’s son, Isaac, back to him. He provided another sacrifice instead, a ram.**
- Dao Dao:** I guess I could give up whatever God wanted me to give up, couldn’t I?
- Teacher:** **I think you could, Dao Dao, especially since you know God gave up His own Son, not on an altar, but on the cross. Since God gave up Jesus, we can be forgiven and friends with God.**
- Dao Dao:** Teacher, can I have my Game Boy back now?
- Teacher:** **But I thought you would want to leave it on the altar.**
- Dao Dao:** I do, but I think what God really wants me to do is share it with my sister. I’ll go do that now.
- Teacher:** **Fantastic, Dao Dao. We will end with prayer now.**
Dear God, thank You that You **laid it all on the altar* when You gave us your Son, Jesus. You also gave us an example of how Abraham trusted You enough to put his own son on the altar. If we have something that is so important to us that it gets in the way of our friendship with You, help us to lay it on the altar, too. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Supplies:

Quantity (✓)

Small Group Warm-Up:

- no supplies needed

Large Group:

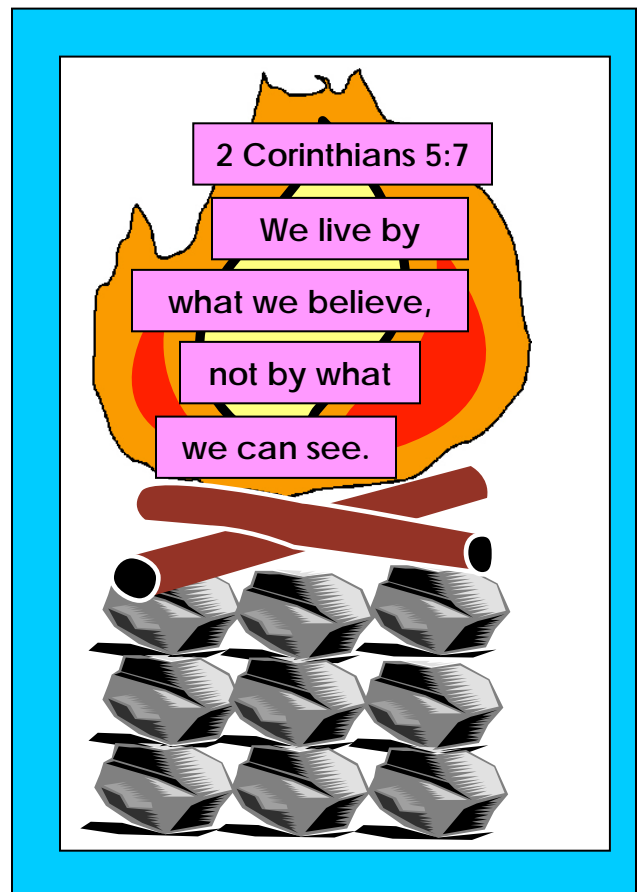
- Dao Dao
- Game Boy
- football with a cross drawn on it with masking tape
- life-size altar that is big enough to lay a small person on (This could be made of a table and a sheet, beanbags and sheets, or whatever your imagination and resources allow.) However, no child will be laid on the altar.
- bundle of sticks for the top of the altar. Two of the sticks need to be proportionate sizes to make a cross when lifted from the rest of the bundle.
- sharp fishing knife (***Be extremely cautious with this around the children for safety's sake.***) or a toy one
- actor costumed as Abraham

Small Group Application:

- model altar for each group. This could be a shoebox or a bucket with a cloth covering. Inside the altar is a package of Honeystars and Rice Krispies cereal.
- five heart-shaped discussion starters (attached to lesson)

Memory Verse Learning:

- Cut a 30cmX42cm board from carton Box and cover it with flannel.
- grey colour paper to cut out stones and glue inter-facing cloth behind.
- brown colour paper, cut a stack of firewood and glue inter-facing cloth behind.
- red flannel cloth, cut shape of fire
- word strips, cut from similli paper and glue inter-facing cloth behind.



Lay It On the Altar: Abraham's Story

God promised Abraham he would have a son. What was his son's name? (Isaac)

Read Genesis 22:17

Through Isaac, God promised Abraham as many descendants as what?

(Stars in the sky or sand in the sea.)

Pass out some Honeystars and Rice Krispies. Explain that these are reminders of this Bible verse.

God told Abraham to do something that seemed strange. What was it?

(Sacrifice Isaac)

Just when Abraham was ready to sacrifice Isaac, what happened?

(God told him to stop.
God provided a ram.)

Why do you think God did this to Abraham?

(To test him and see how much he trusted God.)

2. Lay It On the Altar: Your Friends

Marie knew it wasn't right. The girls were giggling in a group and pointing at Kala. Kala wasn't good at the recess game they were playing because she was heavy and couldn't run fast. No one wanted to be Kala's friend.

Marie knew if she were Kala's friend, many of those same girls would tease her, as well. Those girls were Marie's friends and Marie didn't want them to tease her if she became Kala's friend.

If you were Marie, what would you do? How could you take your desire to be friends with the girls who were teasing Kala and lay it on the altar?

Read Romans 12:1

**"I beg you to be a living sacrifice
to Him. Your offering must be only for God
and pleasing to Him."**

3. Lay It On the Altar: Your Money

Joseph had his offering in his envelope in the top drawer of his dresser. He was saving it for Sunday. It was now Saturday afternoon and he had a chance to go to the movie. Joseph would have to pay for the movie out of his own allowance, but he had already spent his allowance. If Joseph used the money from his offering envelope, he would have just enough for the movie.

If you were Joseph, what would you do? Why?

How can we lay our money on the altar to become a living sacrifice to God?

Read Romans 12:1

"I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to Him. Your offering must be only for God and pleasing to Him."

4. Lay It On the Altar: Your Pride

Chee Sing wanted more than anything to be captain of his football team. The teacher told the team they would choose a captain on Friday. Chee Sing wasn't the best player on the team, but he tried his best and encouraged other players.

When Friday came, the team voted Tuck Keong, the best football player, as their captain. When the vote was announced, everyone clapped for Tuck Keong. Chee Sing wanted more than anything to be in Tuck Keong's place. He wanted everyone to clap for him. His pride was hurt because he wasn't chosen.

Chee Sing decided to lay it on the altar. He prayed and trusted God. "Maybe it's more that I would honour God than try to get other people to honour me," Chee Sing thought.

How do you think the rest of the football season was for Chee Sing? Make up your own ending to this story.

Read Romans 12:1

"I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to Him. Your offering must be only for God and pleasing to Him."

5. Receive What God Lays on the Altar: Jesus

God laid his Son on the altar. It wasn't an altar like Abraham built out of stone. Jesus' altar was the Cross. On the Cross, Jesus was sacrificed to pay the price for our sins.

Did Jesus do this willingly? Yes! He gave His life as a living sacrifice for us. The Bible says, "So that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life."

Jesus laid down His life but He did not stay dead. He rose from the dead. Now He promises to be with anyone who trusts Him as the one who rescues them from their sin.

If you were to ask Jesus to be your Saviour, what words would you use?

Is there someone you know who doesn't know how Jesus gave His life as a living sacrifice for all of us?
Whose job is it to share that message of Jesus?

Read John 3:16a

**"This is how we know what real love is:
Jesus gave His life for us."**