



Leave a Legacy of Love

by Kerry Clarensau

What is life really all about? Accumulating things? Achievements? Attaining sought-after positions? No.

Rick Warren in his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, says, "Life is all about love." He points out that it is in loving that we are most like God. Love is also the foundation of everything God requires of us. "For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Galatians 5:14, The New Living Translation).

Loving relationships are what life is really all about. Jesus told us what matters most to God in two statements: Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength. Love others as yourself.

Demonstrating the Love

As a Missionettes sponsor, your first priority should be demonstrating God's love to the girls in your club. The achievement program is a wonderful way to help girls understand God's Word; however, it should not be viewed as the top priority of Missionettes.

Girls should see God's love for them demonstrated through your words and actions each week. When we make a loving environment a priority, the result

will be a greater return on achievement and discipleship. There is a danger of becoming so busy "doing Missionettes" that we lose sight of loving girls. Then we wonder why the girls aren't enjoying Missionettes, or we have great difficulty maintaining order. We must not allow the expectations of achievement in Missionettes to displace what is most important to God.



Expressing God's Love

Before your next club meeting, take the opportunity to express God's love to each girl individually. Here are a few suggestions.

 Mail each girl a personal note or card; possibly enclose a packet of hot cocoa or stickers.

 Take groceries to a girl whose family is in need.

 Ask the girls to sit by you in church. Give them a gift of a note pad and pencil and then encourage them to take sermon notes.

 Make cookies (any baked item or craft), place them in personalized bags, then deliver them personally to the girls' homes or schools.

 Invite all of the girls into your home for games, dinner, or a video.

 Arrange ahead of time with the school office to have lunch at the girls' schools—surprise them!

 Display the girls' pictures on the wall of your club-room or display their artwork.

 Attend a school or sporting event.

 Take time to talk to them one-on-one, and really listen when they talk.

 "Brag" on the girls to their parents when the girls can hear.

When you are intentional about expressing love, it will demonstrate God's character, not only to your girls, but also to

the visitors they bring with them. Jesus tells us in John 13:35 (The New Living Translation) that, “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” Remember that in loving the girls in your club, you are most like God himself.

As a Missionettes sponsor, you have an incredible opportunity to leave a legacy of love. Remember—how much you love is the greatest impact you will leave. Brother Lawrence in his book, *The Practice of the Presence of God*, says that “we ought not to be weary of doing

little things for the love of God, who regards not the greatness of the work, but the love with which it is performed.” Love is the secret of leaving an eternal legacy.

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Questions for Further Study—

1. How are we most like God?
2. How do the girls in your Missionettes club see God’s love?
3. What are some ways you can show God’s love to the girls in your Missionettes club?