

# St. Valentine Story and Activities

## -Lesson Suggestions-

**For High Beginners:** Before you read, make flashcards with the vocabulary and use actions to get the meaning across. Draw a small picture on each card as a cue.

Read the story slowly, in parts. You may want to divide the story into three sessions. Give the student the parts of the story in the present tense to read with you, but you read the parts in the past tense to the student just to give context.

Do “Writing About Relationships”, and then write simple sentences: I love my son. I love my sister. Another option, make a Valentine and write simple Valentine's Day words on it.

Extension: Have the student rank who they love and tell why. You do the same. This is an opportunity to talk about trust and share what is going on in your lives. It could also give you an opportunity to share about your relationship with God.

**For Intermediate Learners:** Go over the vocabulary list. Have the student put a “check” next to words he or she can explain, act out, or use in a sentence already. Work on the new words.

Read the story in one session, referring back to the vocabulary list when needed.

Do both of the writing activities. Have the student write in short paragraphs instead of single sentences. As the student writes about relationships, discuss who is important to each of you and why. Look for opportunities to share about why your relationship with God is important to you, and how/why we believe **God loves us!**

Language Extension: Have the student underline all the present tense verbs and then change them to the past tense (Make sure the student has already studied the past tense and has a list to refer to). Then reread the story.

**For Advanced Learners:** Have the student tell you about what he or she already knows about Valentine's Day. Ask if he or she knows where the holiday came from. Have the student read the story silently as a quick read, then answer your question about the holiday's origin by retelling the story. **This is a great opportunity to then tell other similar stories of love or sacrifice: The Prodigal Son, Isaac and Rebekah, etc.**

Instead of the provided writing activities, ask the student to write a couple of paragraphs as a response to the story: Did you agree or disagree with what Valentine did? Why did he sacrifice himself for what he believed? Have you ever heard of someone doing that?

Spiritual Extensions: Option 1. Here is an opportunity to talk about Jesus' sacrifice by making a natural “Text to Text” connection. Option 2. Use the “Love is...” activity and share about where the verse comes from.

## **St. Valentine Story Vocabulary:**

Use the words in a sentence, act out, or draw a picture

### **Valentine (both a card and a person)**

**heart**

**priest**

**believe**

**relationship**

**care about or love**

**king**

**Rome**

**army**

**powerful**

**fear**

**jail**

**Title: Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr., Jr., St.**

What is Valentine's Day? What do you know?

Do you celebrate Valentine's Day?

# The Story of St. Valentine

- 1 St. Valentine lived 1,700 years ago.
- 2 Valentine was a **priest**.
- 3 A priest is a man of the church.
- 4 He did weddings. He helped men and women get married.



**a priest**

- 5 Valentine **believed** love was important.
- 6 Here is his story.

Priest image by pixnio.com



- 7 Valentine is a **priest**. He is a man of the **church**.  
8 He helps men and women get married.  
9 Valentine lives in Rome, Italy.  
10 Rome is great and **powerful**.



**The King**

- 11 Claudius is the **king**.  
12 He wants a big army.  
13 He says, "No more marriage!"  
14 He says, "All men join my **army**!"

- 15 Valentine **fears** God. He does not fear Claudius.  
16 Valentine continues to help men and women get married.



**jail**

- 17 Claudius arrests Valentine and puts him in **jail**.  
18 Claudius says, "Valentine must die!"  
19 Valentine waits in the jail to die.



**a reading teacher**

- 20 One day, the security guard at the jail asks Valentine a question.  
21 He says, "Will you teach my daughter to read?"  
22 Valentine is a good teacher. He says "yes".  
23 After many days, the girl learns to read. He is her good friend.

24 On February 14, 270 AD, Valentine is killed.  
25 Before he dies, he writes a letter to the girl.  
26 It says:  
27 *“Fear God. Do not fear men. Love, from  
your Valentine.”*

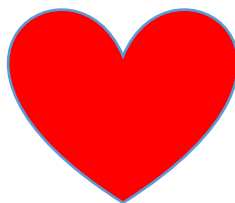
28 Valentine died for what he **believed**.  
29 The church gave him a special **title**:  
*Saint Valentine or St. Valentine*  
30 That is why the holiday is called *“St. Valentine’s  
Day”*.

31 Valentine’s Day celebrates **relationships**.  
32 How do people celebrate?  
33 People who care about each other sometimes  
give a small gift.  
34 The gift can be candy, flowers, or a card.  
35 Children learn to make a **heart** with a message on  
it.

32 This is also called a **“Valentine”**.

33 You can give a Valentine to someone you care  
about.

34 Can you make a valentine?



## Writing about Relationships

Write as many relationships in English as you can!  
(Example: father and son, friend and friend, ...)

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Talk with your tutor. Ask, “What are the important relationships in your life?”

## Writing a Letter

A letter starts with “Dear \_\_\_\_\_”, and ends with “From, \_\_\_\_\_”. You can also use “love” with family. Look at the examples. Then write your own letter.

Dear Sam,

Thank you so much for helping me move on Saturday. You are a great friend!

From,

Ann

Dear Sweetie,

I am so blessed to be married to you for ten years. Happy Valentine's Day!

Love,

Ann

Look at the difference. One letter is “**romantic**” and the other one is not.

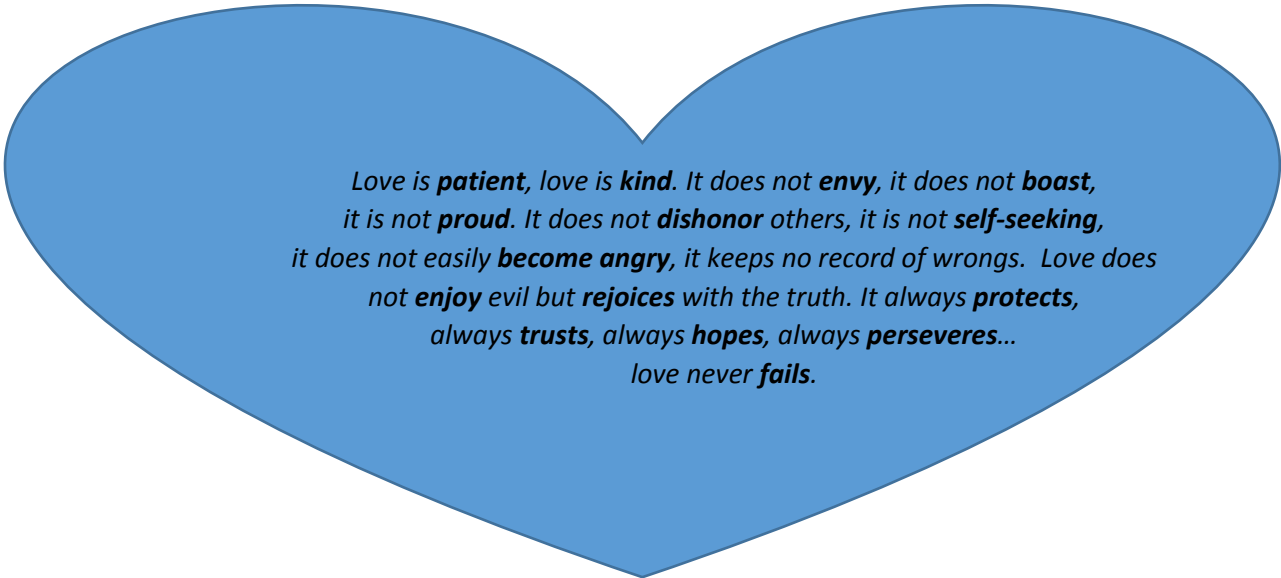
Now you write a letter to someone!



## St. Valentine story Questions

1. Who is St. Valentine?
2. What is the problem in the story?
3. What does Valentine do about the problem?
4. Do you agree or disagree with him?
5. Can you tell the story out loud? *(No reading!)*
6. Did you like the story or not? Why?
7. What relationship is the most important to you? Why?
8. Do you want to read another good story? Read the story of "The Lost Son"!

**Word Study:** Read the saying below. Where does it come from? Have you heard it before? Study the words. Fill in the chart with the words from the saying.



Love is/Love does	Love is not/Love does not

**Write sentences in your notebook:**

Love is patient. Love does not envy.