

Scripture Reading: Psalm 1

*Love is a condition in which the happiness of another person
is essential to your own. —Robert Heinlein*

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day, a day for sweethearts, couples or good friends. Children, especially, will pass around small heart-shaped sugar candies to their classmates. These tiny sweets all have a short message stamped on them: "Be Mine," "Kiss Me," "Call Me," "Let's Get Busy" or "Miss You." Every year, about 8 billion candy hearts are made for consumption, or about 100,000 pounds per day!

Although these colored candies have been around for more than 100 years, the messages had not changed much — until about 30 years ago.

Since the 1990s, new sayings have been introduced that are more appealing to contemporary kids. There was "Fax Me," "Call Me" and "Email Me." Today, there's even one that simply says "LOL." That means, "Laugh Out Loud." The company who makes Sweethearts gets hundreds of suggestions each year.

If you were asked for a text idea, how would you respond?

How about a Bible verse that mentions love?

- John 3:16 ("For God so loved the world ...")
- 1 John 4:8 ("God is love.")
- 1 Corinthians 13:13 ("And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.")
- John 15:12 ("This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.")

Sharing candy treats with a message on them is fun, and it is a wholesome tradition. But even better than using preprinted words impressed by a die-maker on soft candy are the *actions* we take that make an impression on soft hearts, eager for your comforting gestures of love and support!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for people to love, for people who appreciate gestures of support, people who depend on me for love and positive thoughts. Help me not to let them down. In your name. Amen.

*Happy Valentine's Day!
With Love,
Lina & Pastor Ben Motz
Steven, Sara, & Ethan*

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Exodus 21-24
- Monday:** Exodus 25-27
- Tuesday:** Exodus 28-31
- Wednesday:** Exodus 32-34
- Thursday:** Exodus 35-37
- Friday:** Exodus 38-40
- Saturday:** Psalms 16-18

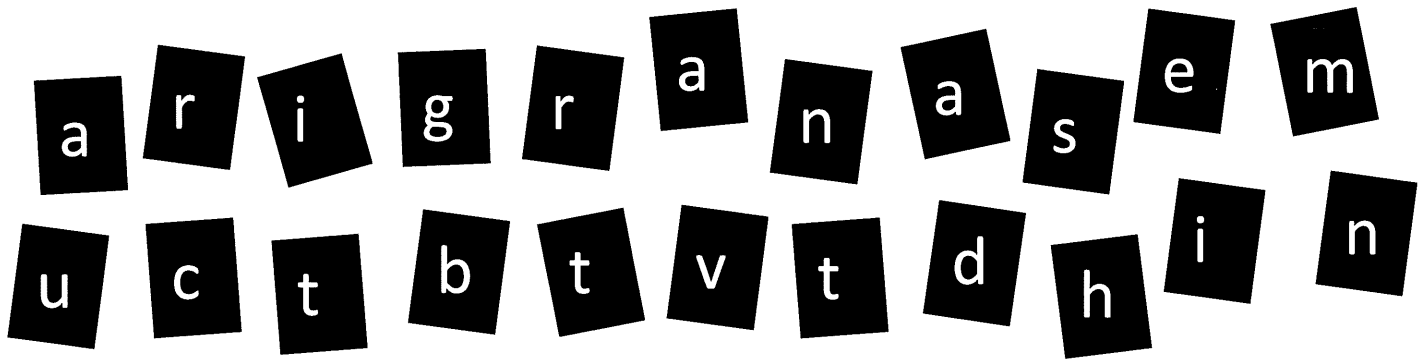
Verse to Remember

My God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

—Psalm 18:2 (NIV)

SCRAMBLED LETTERS

Directions: Arrange the letters below in the grid as needed to make a collection of intersecting words. Use each letter only once (some letters repeat — for example, “a” and “t”).



NOTE: There are a number of different ways to arrange the letters into intersecting words on this grid.

February 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Biblical Brain Baffler: “Out of the eater came something to eat. Out of the strong came something sweet.” This riddle was posed by Samson. The full story can be found in the book of Judges. See Judges 14:14.

Solution:
 Bees making a honeycomb inside the carcass of a lion. See Judges 14:18.