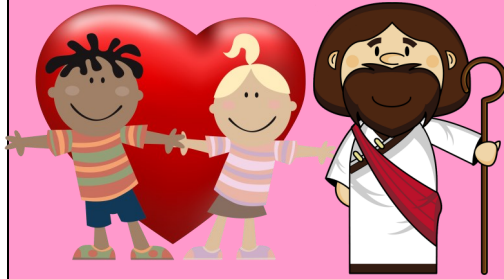


Week 2



February 8th/9th

OVERVIEW CARD

Zacchaeus

Key Question:

Who does Jesus love?

Bottom Line:

Jesus loves everyone.

Memory Verse:

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV

Bible Story:

Jesus loves us when we do something wrong.

Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-8

Coloring Page:

Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see Jesus.

Music:

I Like To
Great Big God
All of My Heart

Bible Lesson:

God's Story for Me Bible

Jesus Loves Zacchaeus

Pages 403 to 408

Service Time:

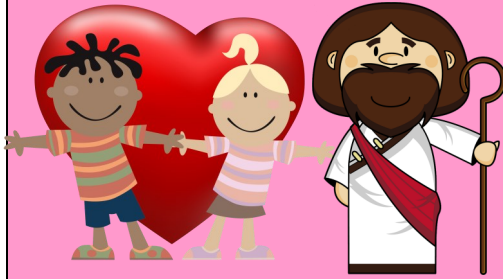
minutes

February Memory Verse -

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

ACTIVITY

Zacchaeus

Jesus Loves

What You Need: Red heart pillow.

What You Do: Recite the Memory Verse while passing the heart pillow around. When the verse is finished, say the name of the child holding the heart pillow using the following phrase: "Jesus loves (*child's name*)."

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Look at this squishy red pillow! It's a heart pillow! Let's pass the heart pillow around as we say our verse today. Everybody make a circle!"

During the activity: "Our Memory Verse says (*start passing the heart pillow*), 'Love each other as I have loved you,' John 15:12. Whoever has the pillow, hold it up over your head. (*Pause.*) Jesus loves (*say that child's name*). Let's say our Memory Verse again. (*Start passing the heart pillow.*) 'Love each other as I have loved you,' John 15:12. Whoever has the pillow, hold it up over your head. (*Pause.*) Jesus loves (*say that child's name*) Let's do it again!" (*Continue as many times as desired.*)

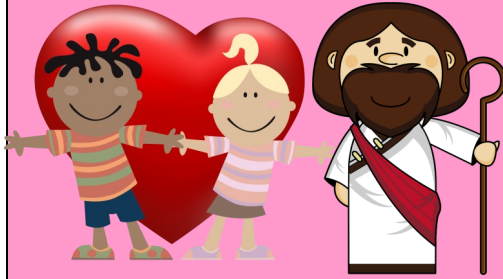
At the end of the activity: "Great job, friends! Jesus loves (*name all the kids in the group*). Jesus wants us to love each other like He loves us! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

February Memory Verse -

"Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

ACTIVITY

Zacchaeus

In the Tree

What You Need: Brown and green construction paper, scissors, and painter's tape.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Cut a tree trunk rectangular shape out of the brown construction paper and tape to the wall at child height. (You could trace your arm as a tree trunk if desired.) Cut simple oval leaf shapes out of the green construction paper, add tape to one side, and set them aside.

(Optional: Hide the leaves around the area for the kids to find.)

During the activity: Encourage children to tape the leaves to the tree. Continue until all the leaves have been placed on the tree.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Look at this shape. What does it make you think of? (Point to the tree trunk.) A tree trunk! That's right! What is our tree missing? (Pause.) Our tree is missing leaves!"

During the activity: "Do you see any leaves around here? (Pause.) There they are! Can you help me cover the tree trunk with all the leaves? (Pause.) Great! (Pause.) Look how full our tree is getting! It's so pretty! (Continue until all the leaves have been placed.) Look at what a pretty tree we made."

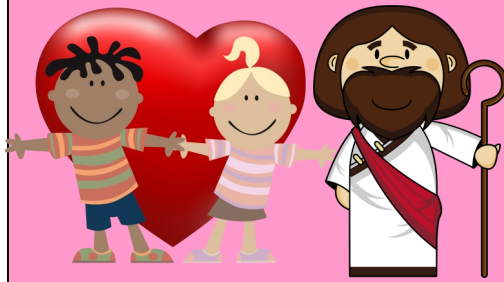
At the end of the activity: "You did a wonderful job covering the tree with all those leaves! When I was little, I used to love climbing up in trees and swinging on the branches. In our Bible lesson, we heard about a short little man who climbed way up in a tree so he could see over a great big crowd. Do you remember what his name was?"

February Memory Verse -

"Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

ACTIVITY

Zacchaeus

Find the People

What You Need: The “Allergy Alert” poster, a large plastic container, rice, and Little People®.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Pour rice into the container and mix in the Little People® figures, making sure they are all covered.

During the activity: Have children find all the hidden people.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “Today’s Bible lesson is about a man named Zacchaeus. That’s a fun name to say! Say it with me. Zacchaeus. Well, Zacchaeus was a tax collector. That means he went around and took the money that people were supposed to give to the leaders. But sometimes Zacchaeus did bad things and he would take more money than he was supposed to and keep it for himself. Oh, no! That’s not right! That’s not how we are supposed to treat other people, is it? (Pause.) No!”

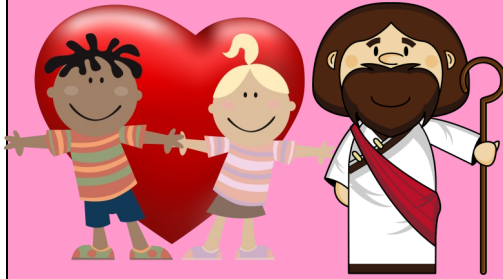
During the activity: “There are lots of people hiding in this box. Can you help me find them? (Pause.) Look at all the people! Jesus loves this person, (pick up a person) and this person, and this person. And Jesus loves you, and you, and you.” (Point to every child.)

February Memory Verse -

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

ACTIVITY

Zacchaeus

Who Do You Love?

What You Need: Painter's tape, Red and pink construction paper hearts, cd player and fun music.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Tape the hearts onto the floor with the painter's tape.

During the activity: Play freeze dance. When the music stops, whoever is standing on a heart says, "Jesus loves Everyone."

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Look at the big hearts on the floor! We are going to play a fun game of Heart Dance! I'm going to play some music and when the music stops, whoever is standing on a heart will yell out, "Jesus loves Everyone."

During the activity: "Let's dance! (*Play music; stop after 10-20 seconds.*) Okay, now stop. Who is standing on the heart? (*Pause.*) Who does Jesus love? (*Pause.*) Jesus loves everyone! Great! (*Start the music.*) There's the music, let's get dancing. (*Repeat until all children have had a chance to say "Jesus loves Everyone".*) You guys are full of love! **Who does Jesus love? (*Pause.*) Jesus loves everyone.**"

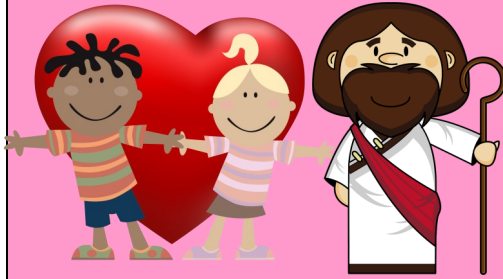
At the end of the activity: "That was so much fun dancing. Jesus loves everyone, even when we do something wrong like Zac in our Bible lesson today. **Who does Jesus love? (*Pause.*) Jesus loves everyone.**"

February Memory Verse -

"Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

ACTIVITY

Zacchaeus

Colored Hearts

What You Need: Cut out large “hearts” from red, green, yellow and blue construction paper.

What You Do: Tape the hearts to the corners of the room. Call out a color and ask everyone to jump, walk, hop, crawl, etc.. to the color heart.

What You Say:

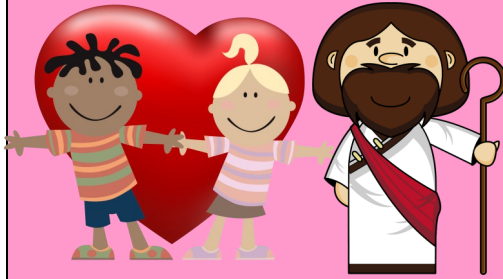
“Wow that was fun! You all did a wonderful job! Our Bible lesson tells us that Zacchaeus believed in Jesus and gave back all the coins that he had taken from others. Zacchaeus kindness helped others see that he really did believe in Jesus. Jesus loved Zacchaeus and He loves you too!!!”

February Memory Verse -

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

CRAFT

Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus's Tree

What You Need: "Zacchaeus" and "Tree" and Popsicle Sticks and Crayons and/or Markers.

What You Do: Have the children create their very own Tree and Zacchaeus picture

What You Say:

Before the activity: "Today in our story, Zacchaeus was high in a tree. Do you remember why? *(Pause.)* Yes! So he could see Jesus. We are going to make our own tree with our arms. Sounds silly, huh? Let's get started!"

During the activity: "First we are going to color our tree! Way to go! Now use the markers and color your Zacchaeus. *(Allow child to color.)* What is missing from our tree that was in our story today? *(Pause.)* Yes! Zacchaeus! Let's use our glue and put Zacchaeus on the popsicle stick. Do you remember where Zacchaeus was? *(Pause.)* That's right, he was up in the tree. Let's put him right up here. *(Demonstrate.)* Great!"

At the end of the activity: "Now we can use our trees to tell people about Zacchaeus and Jesus. We want everyone to know that Jesus loves them!"

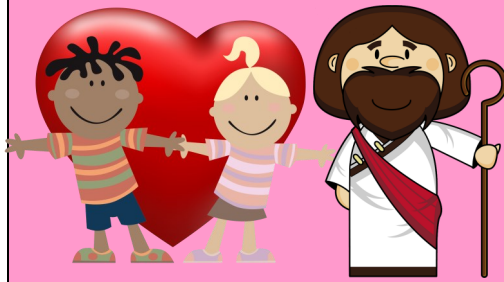
Who does Jesus love? *(Pause.)* You got it! **Jesus loves everyone!"**

February Memory Verse -

"Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12, NIV

Week 2



February 8th/9th

SMALL GROUP

Zacchaeus

Small Group Time

What you Need: Stickers and Bible

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “Have you ever really wanted to see something, but you couldn’t see over all the tall people? *(Pause.)* Me, too! That’s how Zacchaeus felt in our Bible lesson today. He really wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short! What did Zacchaeus do so he could see Jesus? *(Pause.)* You got it! He climbed a tree! Smart thinking! And I’m sure Zacchaeus was SO glad he did! Jesus saw him in the tree, went to his house, and became his friend forever! Wow!

“Zacchaeus was so happy that Jesus loved him—even though he had done something wrong—that Zacchaeus gave back all the money he had stolen! I think that is SO cool! Zacchaeus did what Jesus tells us to do in our new Memory Verse. ‘Love each other as I have loved you.’ Say it with me.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “‘Love each other as I have loved you,’ John 15:12.” *(Repeat as many times as desired.)*

SGL: “Would anyone like to try and say it all by yourself?”

Give each child the opportunity to say the verse. Make this a special time for them and reward them with a sticker.

SGL: “Jesus loved Zacchaeus and forgave him for doing something wrong. Then Zacchaeus loved the people and gave them their money back. Yay, Jesus! Yay, Zacchaeus!

“It’s time to pray. I think we should make a list of some of the wrong things we have done. I mean, Zacchaeus isn’t the only person who has done something wrong. I’ve done wrong things, too. Have you? *(Pause.)* Well, let’s make a list and then we can tell God we’re sorry like Zacchaeus did.”

Write down the children’s names and what they say on the dry erase board. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters. Mention their list when you pray together.

Prayer

SGL: “God, it makes us feel good that Jesus loved Zacchaeus even when he did something wrong. We’ve done wrong things, too. Please forgive us for ... *(read the list)*. Help us to do what is right, like love people the way Jesus loves them. Thank You for loving us and for forgiving us. You are amazing, God! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

February Memory Verse -

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

John 15:12, NIV