

# OVERVIEW CARD The Unloved Woman

**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 no one else does.

The Unloved Woman

John 8:1-11

**Coloring Page:** Hearts

Music: I'm So Glad He Loves Me

**Great Big God** 

Go

Service Time: 70 minutes



## **Heart Dance**

**What You Need:** Large sheets of poster board (four sheets in four different colors), scissors, masking tape, cd player and fun music.

## What You Do:

Before the activity: Cut a large heart shape from each poster board and tape them securely to the floor. (You will want to make sure they are spread out around the room)

During the activity: Have children dance around, and when you say, "Hearts," have them go and place one foot on a heart. When everyone is touching a heart, call out one of the colors and have the children do something such as hop on one foot, spin in a circle, touch their toes, etc. Repeat this as long as children seem interested.

# What You Say:

Before the activity: "What is all over the floor? (Pause.) Lots and lots of hearts! In just a minute I want you to dance and when I say, 'Hearts,' I want you to go and place one foot on a heart. You can pick any color you want, but let's try to only have a couple people on each heart, okay? Are you ready to get started? (Pause.) Great!"

During the activity: "Can you show me your best dance moves? (Pause.) Oh, those are some great dance moves! Keep dancing and ... HEARTS! Everybody find a heart. (Help direct kids to open hearts if necessary.) All my friends are touching a heart! I would like my purple friends to touch their toes. (Pause.) I would like my red friends to clap their hands (keep repeating until all colors and children have completed an activity). Wow! Dancing is so much fun! Fabulous!"



# **Rolling for Love**

**What You Need:** Painter's tape, a large plastic container, and balls (ball pit balls would work great).

## What You Do:

Before the activity: Using the painter's tape, make a medium-sized heart in an open area on the floor. Place all the balls in the container near the heart.

During the activity: Have children roll the balls into the heart.

## What You Say:

Before the activity: "I spy a heart on the floor! Do you see it, too? (Pause.) We are going to play a little game with that heart (point to the heart shape on the floor) and these balls. Standing right here, we are going to take turns rolling the balls and trying to get them into the heart. (Demonstrate.) Are you ready to give it a try?"

During the activity: "Who's ready to roll the ball? (Pause.) Great! Give it a roll! (Pause.) Good roll! Who's up next? (Continue until everyone has had a turn.) That was fun! Now we need to get all the balls into the heart! Go get all the balls and put them in the heart. Don't roll them this time, just put them into the heart. (Pause.) Super job!"

At the end of the activity: "We had another heart activity, didn't we? And what do hearts remind you of? (*Pause.*) Love! Today's Bible lesson tells us how Jesus loved a woman that no one else would! Do you remember what happened?"



### **Unloved Woman**

**What You Need:** "Story Pictures" from the Activity Pages from the Website, cardstock, and scissors.

### What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Story Pictures" from the Activity Pages onto cardstock and cut across the middle.

During the activity: Retell the Bible lesson while the children help match up the pictures and put them in order.

### What You Say:

Before the activity: "We learned about the woman that no one loved in our Bible lesson today with some pictures. I have those same pictures, but I need some help! Look, it's not the whole picture! Can you help me put them together? (Pause.) Super! Let's get started."

During the activity: "Our Bible lesson started with a lady who had done something bad. She had no friends and was very sad. Can you help me find the pieces that go together to make the sad lady? (Pause.) There she is. Next, some mean guys told Jesus that He should make her pay or be punished. Can you find the pieces that go together to make the picture of Jesus with the mean guys pointing at the sad lady? (Pause.) There it is. But did Jesus punish the sad lady? (Pause.) No! Because Jesus said, 'I love her anyway.' Find the pieces that go together to make the picture of Jesus and the lady smiling. (Pause.) There they are. This is my favorite picture because it lets us know that no matter if we've done something bad, Jesus is still our friend and loves us very much!"

At the end of the activity: "Jesus is the best friend ever because Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? (Pause.) Jesus loves everyone!"



## Face of Love

**What You Need:** "Happy/Sad Scenarios" and "Scenario Descriptions" from the Activity Pages on the Website, white paper, sheets of happy and sad face stickers, and crayons.

## What You Do:

Before the activity: Make one copy of "Happy/Sad Scenarios" from the Activity Pages on white paper for each child. Make one copy of "Scenario Descriptions" for leader.

During the activity: Give each child a copy of "Happy/Sad Scenarios" and two of each happy and sad face stickers. Read the scenarios one at a time. After you read each scenario, ask the children if they should put a happy face sticker in the circle or a sad face sticker in the circle. Once you have read all four scenarios, instruct the children to color the pictures.

## What You Say:

Before the activity: "We have been learning a lot about love this month. Love is amazing! It can put a smile on your face, even when you feel sad inside. Look at these pictures with me. I'll read a little story with each picture and then I want you to decide if the person should have a happy face or a sad face."

At the end of the activity: "Yes, **Jesus loves everyone**, even when no one else does. **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!** And Jesus wants you and me to love everyone, too! When we do, we can put a smile on people's faces!"



# **Bounce It to Me!**

What You Need: A medium-size bouncy ball

What You Do: Stand in a circle with the children. Say the Bottom Line ("Jesus loves Everyone") a few times together for review. Call a child's name and bounce the ball to that person. Once he catches the ball, he must say the Bottom Line aloud. If he wants, he can choose a friend to help him. After he says the Bottom Line, he will choose another person to bounce the ball to. Continue bouncing the ball to one another, saying the Bottom Line each time someone catches the ball.

# What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "Okay, you better be ready! When I call your name, I'm going to bounce this ball to you for you to catch! After you catch the ball, I want you to say "Jesus Loves Everyone". Are you ready? (Pause.) Here we go!"

At the end of the activity: "Wow! You are great catchers and bouncers! Do you know what's even better than catching and bouncing? You're great at learning too! Our Bottom Line says that "Jesus Loves Everyone"! God loved us SO MUCH that he sent his One and Only Son. We are supposed to love other people the same way Jesus loves us. That means we're supposed to love everyone, because we all know that Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



Where's the Heart?

What You Need: Small Toy Heart

## What to Do:

Have the children sit in a circle. Select one child to be "IT". That child sits in the center of the circle with his eyes closed. Have the other children put their hands behind their backs. The leader walks around the outside of the circle and secretly places the heart in the hands of one of the children. The person "IT" in the circle has 3 chances to guess who has the heart hidden behind his back. The child who has the heart goes to the center of the circle and closes his eyes and is now "IT". The leader then walks around the outside of the circle and places the heart again in the hands of one of the children.

# **Alternate Activity:**

Instead of the leader placing the heart, let the children pass the heart around the circle. The person "IT" in the center has his eyes closed. When the leader says ok, the heart is no longer passed and all the children put their hands behind their backs. Whoever has the heart at that point keeps it hidden behind his back. The person "IT" in the circle has 3 chances to guess who has the heart behind his back.



# CRAFT The Unloved Woman

# **Jesus Loves Everyone**

What You Need: Foam Crosses, career people stickers, heart stickers and sharpie.

## What You Do:

Identify all the people on the stickers with the children. As you talk about each one, encourage the children to place the stickers on the foam cross but tell them to keep the area in the center of the cross empty. Next, place a red heart sticker on the center of the cross and add the words, "Jesus loves Everyone" to the heart.

# What You Say:

Before the activity: "Look at all the different kinds of people on the stickers. Let's see if we can name them all!"

During the activity: "Put your finger on the first sticker like this. (Demonstrate.) Who is this? (Pause.) Yes! This is a (name of person). Does Jesus love (name of person)? Yes! Jesus loves everyone! Place the sticker on the cross anywhere except in the center of the cross because I have a special sticker for the center. Ok, now we can add a red heart sticker to the center of the cross. Our heart sticker tell us that "Jesus loves Everyone" (have volunteers write on the sticker prior to starting the activity).

At the end of the activity: "Wow! Look at all of the people that Jesus loves! Jesus loves everyone. He loves all of you and me and our families ... EVERYONE! You can take your cross home with you today to show your family that Jesus loves everyone."



# SMALL GROUP The Unloved Woman

### **Small Group Time**

What you Need: Stickers, Bible, Dry Erase Board and Marker.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** "Have you ever had a friend be mean to you? (*Pause.*) It doesn't feel good when people are mean to you, does it? People were mean to the woman in our Bible lesson today because she had done some bad things. No one would love her and be her friend anymore. Isn't that sad? (*Pause.*) I think it's very sad. But the good part of the story is that Jesus loved the woman when no one else would. Do you know why? (*Pause.*) Yes, because **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: "Jesus loves everyone."

**SGL:** "And that means Jesus loves you, even when other people don't. That should put a smile on your face. (*Smile big.*) And when we love others the way Jesus loves us, it will put a smile on their faces too! Let's say our Memory Verse together so we'll remember to love others the way Jesus loves us."

CHILDREN and SGL: "Love each other as I have loved you,' John 15:12." (Repeat as many times as desired.)

**SGL:** Let's say our verse together one more time and then anyone who wants to say it for a sticker can have a turn."

CHILDREN and SGL: "Love others as I have loved you,' John 15:12."

"Okay, it's time to pray. Today let's make a list of friends we can love, even if they're kind of hard to love sometimes, like maybe a brother or a sister or a friend at school that's mean sometimes or does wrong things. We can pray and ask God to help us love them no matter what."

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, sometimes it's hard to love people when they do wrong things or hurt our feelings. But we really want to love others the way Jesus loves us. Please help us love *(read list of people)* no matter what. And thank You for loving us no matter what. You're awesome, God! In Jesus' name, amen."