

CITY LG- February 25th/26th

Bible Story: The Good Samaritan • *Luke 10:25-37*

Bottom Line: Love others because they matter to God.

Memory Verse: *"Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins."* 1 John 4:10 (NIRV)

Life App: Love—choosing to treat others the way you want to be treated.

CG: Pre-Show

WORSHIP:

Hey Parkview Kids! Let's make some noise!! Who is ready to worship?? Our first song is "Let It Be Known" We can share the Love of Jesus with others. - Let's go! Great Job!! Our second song is our theme song for the month - "No Other Love" Awesome job everyone!! If you brought your offering, you can bring it up.

Let's pray: Dear God, thank you for your Son, Jesus. Help us to remember this week to love others because they matter to God. In your Son's name we pray....AMEN!!

Large Group:

"Hey Parkview kids, welcome to the CITY, my name is [Host's name] and I am excited that you joined us today. To start off today, we are going to play Disney Trivia. Here are the rules."

CG: Game

Disney Trivia: Split the kids up either by gender or by age group. Inform them that you will give them points based on how many questions they get right. Have the leaders write down their answer on the whiteboard and hold up their answer. The host should give each group 10 to 15 seconds to think of the answers. If they get the answer right, they get a point. The team with the most points wins the game."

"We are in our last weekend of our series called Behind the Scenes. All this month we have been looking at love. We have been defining love as not the 'I love cupcakes' or 'I love soccer' kind of love."

CG: Love Slide

"Love is choosing to treat others the way you want to be treated." Can you say that with me? (*Repeat Slide*).

"Love can be the way you treat your friends, family, or classmates. You treat them the way you would want to be treated. You won't make fun of them or put worms in their sandwiches would you? (*Pause for Response*) No. You would want to treat them kindly, so that they would treat you kindly."

"Some of you are thinking "Why should I treat others better than they treat me." Good question. I mean sometimes there are people that act differently, that dress differently, think differently, or sometimes, they are just plain mean. Sometimes it's hard to be friendly or even kind to that person because we really don't want to. Well, today's story will help answer that question.

SETTING UP THE STORY

"All month we have been following around Jesus and his disciples. We have seen some pretty awesome true stories about Jesus. We saw Jesus calming a storm, feeding 5,000 and Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. Well, today's story is another awesome one. Today's story is a parable of Jesus. A parable is kind of like a story that helps us learn a lesson of what Jesus wants us to do. So face towards the scene and check out the video.

CG: Behind the Scenes Story

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

"I love that story. I mean, these guys were enemies. They were never supposed to even talk to each other, yet the Samaritan decided to help him. It doesn't make sense when someone helps an enemy, does it? That's like a Cubs fan helping a Sox fan, right? That would be crazy.

"I mean, in that day it would have been perfectly fine for the Good Samaritan to pass by the traveler. However, Jesus was trying to point out that we are to help other people that don't look, act, or think like us. We are to love those people by treating them the way we would want to be treated."

"Going back to our original question: why does Jesus want us to love others who are different from us? Well, it's because God created us in His image. Can you say 'Image of God' with me? (*Say Image of God again*). That means that God created us to look like him. That doesn't mean we will have a beard someday. God gave us some of the qualities that make Him who he is, like our ability to create art, to talk, to think deeply, and most of all, to love."

"All of these make us in the image of God and God loves us because we are created in his image. Turn to your neighbor, give them a high five, and say 'you were made in the image of God.' Jesus wants us to care for other people because they matter to him."

Let's take a look at the Bottom Line for today."

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "Love others because they matter to God. Can you say that with me?" (*Repeat Slide*).

"This can be hard to do sometimes, but remember that God loves that person no matter how they look, act or believe. In fact they matter so much, that Jesus gave us his perfect life so that we could one day be with him for eternity. Look at this month's memory verse."

CG: Memory Verse Slide

"Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that He loved us and sent His Son to give His life to pay for our sins." 1 John 4:10 (NIRV)

"So the next time you are at school and see someone sitting by themselves, remember that they are made in the image of God. They might need a friend and you can invite them to come and sit by you. You might even find out that they're funny or cool. Or when your brother/sister is driving you crazy. Say to yourself, 'God wants me to love others' and treat them with kindness rather than getting mad."

"Sometimes, people are mean, rude, and even hurt us. However, Jesus still chooses to love others. It didn't matter what someone looked like, acted, or thought. Jesus loved everyone and we can do the same. Let's pray."

Pray

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your Son to die on the cross so we could be with You forever. Thank You for placing people in our lives who show us Your love each day. Help us to show Your love to others in our schools, in our homes, and in our communities. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus' name, amen."

Dismiss children to their small groups.