

CITY SG- February 4th/5th

Bible Story: No greater love • *John 15:12-13*

Bottom Line: Love others because Jesus loves you.

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.

Lights, Cameras, Pause

What You Need: Name ball (ball with names of people),

What You Do:

- Have the kids stand in a circle and spread out.
- Inform the kids that they will pass the ball back and forth in the circle and when you say, "stop" they will freeze.
- The child with the ball has to pick one of the options where they have their hands placed.
- Ask them: "What is something you can do that is loving for...?"

What You Say:

- What do you think selfishness is? What is the opposite of selfishness? (*Selflessness*).
- Which is easier, to be selfish or selfless? Why?
- What are some things that make us act selfish rather than selfless? (*For example, you want to watch your show right now and so you steal the remote and change the channel while other people are watching*)
- What did Jesus do that was selfless?
- How can you remember this week to be selfless like Jesus? (Don't worry you don't have to die)
- **[Bottom Line] Love others because Jesus loves you."**

Valentine Craft

What You Need: "Valentine Cutouts" Activity Page, paper, markers, glue, scissors, heart stickers, other supplies to make valentines

What You Do:

- Ask kids to each think of someone they can show love to this week.
- Explain that kids will be making valentines to give to someone to show love them.
- Set out the supplies and cutouts.
- Hold up a cutout and read it aloud. Let kids choose one cutout to use on their valentine.
- Allow time for kids to create their valentines.

What You Say:

- When you hear the word love, what do you think of?
- Who makes you feel loved? Why do they make you feel loved?
- How did Jesus love us? (*Review the ABC's of Faith*).
 - Accept that we have sinned and we are sorry for disobeying God.
 - Believe that Jesus is God's son and that he died and rose again. We have to confess that he is our Lord and Savior.

- Choose to follow Jesus' way and not our own way.
- Our Bottom Line is **[Bottom Line] Love others because Jesus loves you.** Why do Jesus' followers love others? (*Since we know his love, we can love other people*).

Pray

What You Need: No Supplies

What You Do:

- If you haven't gone over the ABC's of faith in your small group yet. Make sure to go over it with your kids.
- Ask the kids if they are interested in accepting Jesus into their heart for the very first time.
- If not, ask them if there is someone they would like for us to pray for.

What You Say:

"Passing on the love Jesus gave to us doesn't always have to be as big or complicated as it sounds. It can be as simple as paying attention to what others need, and giving up something to help them. We can ask Jesus to help us to do this each day, and in fact we will need His help to do it. **[Bottom Line] Love others because Jesus loves you.**"

Ping-Pong Ball Verse Knock Out

What You Need: Ping-pong balls, "Memory Verse Cards" Activity Page, tape, plastic cups

What You Do:

- Help your students look up 1 John 4:10. Then read it out loud together a few times.
- Set out the plastic cups, tape, and "Memory Verse Cards." Let kids work together to tape the cards to the cups, with one card per cup.
- Then set up the cups in the correct order. Ask the group to say the verse together, reading it from the cups.
- Then let each kid have a turn throwing one ball at the cups.
- When a kid knocks over a cup, remove that cup and then have the kids say the verse together, using only their memory to say the missing word.
- Continue until all the cups are knocked over and they are saying the entire verse from memory.
- After the game, set the cups aside and save them to be used again next week.

What You Say:

- How would you describe love to a friend? Is there someone you love?
- What is something that you have done for the person you love?
- Does anyone know what the word atoning means? (*To make repair to injuries*).
- What did Jesus sacrifice? (*His life for ours*). Why would he do something like that? (*Because he loves us*).
- Do you think Jesus loving us and Jesus wanting us to love others are connected? Why or why not?
- **[Bottom Line] "Love others because Jesus loves you.**