

CITY SG- 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.

Who Is Your Neighbor?

What You Need: A large piece of craft paper, markers

What You Do:

- On the craft paper, ask the kids to make a list of people they like in the center of the paper by writing or drawing them: friends, teachers, family members, coaches, or anyone they like.
- When they are finished, draw a circle (or a big heart) around all of these people.
- Then in the middle write: “The Samaritan.” On the outside of the circle, write: “The Traveler.”
- Point out that the Samaritan and the traveler were not in each other’s groups. They weren’t friends.
- Ask kids if they can think of anyone who’s “outside” their own circle. (Remind them not to name names. Guide them not to gossip about anyone, but to have a serious conversation about their circle and who they consider “in” it or “out” of it.) Ask if anyone would like to share about a time when they remember treating someone differently because they were outside the circle.

What You Say:

- What would you do if you had a million dollars to give away?
- Why didn’t the first two people help the traveler on the side of the road?
- What do you think made the “Good” Samaritan good? (*He helped someone who was hurting and wasn’t concerned with who they were*).
- Who are some of your “outsiders”? (classmates, bullies, rival teams, homeless).
- How do you think you can love people who are outsiders?
- **[Bottom Line] love others because they matter to God.**

Alike and Not Alike

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Choose one kid. Give the kid a quality and ask the kid to sort the group into kids who are like or not like him or her. For example: “You have a shirt with Elsa on it. Sort the group into people who are like you because they have clothing with a Disney character on it, and people who are not like you because they don’t have a Disney character on their clothing.”
- Make sure there are no personal qualities that could be sensitive such as weight, race, or disabilities.
- Some examples include: type of shoes (laces or no laces), type of shirt (collar or no collar), color of pants, color of eyes, color of hair, wearing socks or not wearing socks, people with a certain category of character on their clothing.

What You Say:

- How do you choose your friends? (*common interest, go to the same school*).
- The Bible tells us that we are made in the “image of God.” What do you think that means? (*We are created in God’s image and He made us like Him.*)
 - (*For example, our love for other people, our ability to create art, and even our speech is all a mark of this*).
- What are ways we should treat people, since God loves everyone and He made everyone in his image? (*We shouldn’t bully, we love others, and we honor others*).
- What can you do this week to love others and remember they were created in God’s image?
- **[Bottom Line] love others because they matter to God.**

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids to think of one person (without saying it aloud) who they find hard to love.
- Tell kids that the person they find hard to love matters to God just as much as any of the people in your small group.
- Lead the kids in a prayer, asking God to remind them that every person they meet matters to God.

What You Say:

“It is natural for people closest to us to matter to us. That is a natural kind of love. But God wants to show a supernatural kind of love through us. God’s kind of love helps us to treat those who naturally wouldn’t matter to us as people who do matter. **[Bottom Line] Love others because they matter to God.**”

Extra Activity

Memory Verse Telephone

What You Need: “Memory Verse” cards

What You Do:

- Have all the kids sit down in a circle and review the Memory Verse.
- Once they have a good grasp of the verse, pass out a memory verse card to each kid. Have the kids say the verse by going around the circle and each kid says a word till the verse is completed. Have the kids hold onto the cards and only peek if they really need help.
- If they mess up, have them start back at the beginning. If they have it, have them say it backwards.

What You Say:

- What words in 1 John 4:10 do you think are the most important? Why?
- In what ways does Jesus’ death break down the barriers between people and make everyone equal?
- Why do you think God wants us to love others? (*He wants us to give to others the same love that He and Jesus have given to us*).
- What’s a way you can love others like Jesus? (*Sharing, helping, giving them something, listening*).

- ***[Bottom Line]*** love others because they matter to God.”