CITY SG -September 2-3, 2017

1. Not So Secret Message

What You Need: Paper, writing utensils, Bible

What You Do:

- Read John 13:34 to the group.
- Remind your few that in our Bible story, Jonathan sent a message to David and showed love to David by helping him.
- Ask kids to choose a friend and write out a message promising to help that friend with something.
- They can choose any friend they want to help, and they can choose any task to help their friend with.
- Some suggestions: help with homework, help with chores, help by taking their lunch tray to the trash for them, help by giving them a gift, or help them specifically with something they're going through or struggling with.

What You Say:

"It's great to have feelings of love for our friends, but acting on those feelings—especially helping a friend with something they need—brings us even closer as friends. Loving a friend means you DO something for that friend. [Make It Personal] (Talk about a time you and a friend were brought closer together by one of you doing something for the other.)
[Bottom Line] Friends love one another, so make sure you do that thing you wrote down!"

Note: You will need the completed index cards for Activity 3 – Pray and Dismiss

2. Memory Verse Mix-Up

What You Need: 2 sets of "Memory Verse Word Cards" with "Food Cards" mixed in

What You Do:

- Read Proverbs 17:17 aloud together a few times.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Place Verse/Food Cards blank side up in a pile in the center of the team.
- The kids will compete to see who can be the first to dig through the cards to find the Memory Verse Word Cards and put them in order.

Note: When you are setting up for next service, be sure the cards are mixed-up again.

What You Say:

"Digging this memory verse out of the food was pretty hard, but by the end of this month, you won't have a hard time digging this verse out of your memory! Don't forget that our verse teaches us about what we are learning this month. [Bottom Line] Friends love one another."

3. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: The notes kids wrote in the "Not So Secret Message" activity

What You Do:

- Gather kids together in a circle and ask them to each hold the message they wrote, promising to help a friend with something.
- When everyone seems ready, pray for the group and let the kids say their friends' names out loud all at once each time you pause. For example: "Lord, today we pray for (pause). Please be with (pause) today. Help (pause) with any problem that might come up and help us know how to best love our friends. Amen!"

What You Say:

"A powerful way to show love to our friends is to regularly pray for them. Be sure to pray for your friends this week and ask God to give you a chance to help your friend in the way you wrote down."

NOTE: As adults arrive to pick up, hand them the Parent Cue, and be sure to mention the friend that their child has chosen to pray for this week.