

ALLEY SG – February 19th, 2023

Today's Bible Story: I Will Be Here (Mary and Martha) • *Luke 10:38-42*

Today's Bottom Line: Take time to show others they are important

Monthly Memory Verse: *Do to others as you want them to do to you.* Luke 6:31 (NIV)

1. Take the Time

Bible Story extension and Application

What You Need: Blank Paper (one piece per kid), markers

What You Do:

- Ask the kids the review questions about the story below...

Review Questions

- What are the names of the two sisters in today's Bible story? (*Mary and Martha*)
- What is the name of Mary and Martha's brother? (*Lazarus*)
- Where did Mary, Martha, and Lazarus live? (*Bethany*)
- Who was the important guest in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus? (*Jesus*)
- What were Mary and Martha both doing as Jesus taught a group of men in the other room? (*preparing a meal*)
- Which of the sisters chose to leave the work they were doing and join the men who were sitting and listening to Jesus teach? (*Mary*)
- Why did Martha get annoyed with Mary? (*She wasn't helping her with any of the meal preparations.*)
- What did Martha want Jesus to do? (*tell Mary to come help her*)
- Why didn't Jesus tell Mary to go help Martha? (*He wanted her to stay and listen to Him teach.*)
- What did Jesus feel was the most important thing Mary and Martha could do that day? (*sit and listen to Him*)

- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Ask them to draw the numbers of a clock on the paper then draw the hands of the clock to any time between 8:00 a.m. (morning) and 8:00 p.m. (night).
- Collect the papers.
- Gather kids in a circle.
- Hold up one of the papers and ask kids to share a way they might give time to someone during that part of the day. It could be for only a minute as they help a younger sibling get shoes on or a longer period of time with someone who needs a friend.
- Encourage and prompt creative ideas.
- Repeat with each of the paper and specific times kids have drawn on them.

What You Say:

"In today's Bible story, Mary and Martha were busy doing something that showed love and respect—preparing a meal for Jesus and the others. At some point, Mary left Martha, put down her dish cloth, and went to the other room to sit and listen to Jesus teach. Both women were showing their respect for Jesus as they worked but when Mary left the work they were doing, she was choosing to spend time with Jesus. Where we spend our time shows what matters most to us. Spending time with Jesus is the MOST important thing. But giving your time is a great way to show others that they matter, too."

2. Toss Across Verse

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bible, One ball

What You Do:

- Give each child a Bible
- Look up and read John 15:12.

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Our verse is from John. Ask kids to tell you whether that's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. (New) So we know it's toward the back of the Bible. It's the last of the four gospels (*Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*). When they find John, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 15. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to find verses 12 in chapter 15.

- Repeat the verse as a group several times.
- Ask:
 - How has God shown love for us?
 - How can we use our time to show love to others?
- Have the kids sit in a circle and give one child the ball.
- Ask that child to say the first word of the verse then throw the ball across to another child who says the second word.
- Continue tossing the ball to each other until you have finished the verse.
- If someone drops the ball, start over again.
- Play a few times and, if possible, time how long it takes the group to complete the verse.
- Try to get quicker each time.

3. Discussion Questions

What You Need: No supplies

What You Do:**Ask:**

- Give some examples of times when listening is a way to show respect.
- What are some ways you can be like Mary and spend time with Jesus?
- How has someone shown you you're important? How can you do that for someone else?

4. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Nothing

What You Do:

- Review some of the ideas you had above of ways to help people throughout the day.
- Invite kids to pray silently or aloud for God's help to put one of idea into action this week.
- After a little time, pray out loud with your group.

What You Say:

"Dear God, we know that spending time with someone is one of the best ways to show how important they are. Help us show our love and respect to those around us by spending the time we have during the day to let others know they are valuable and important. Remind us that spending time with You is most important. Help us to do that this week by thinking about what we've learned from the stories and principles in the Bible and by talking to You often during the day about all the things going on in our life. In Jesus' name, amen."

5. EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY:

What You Need: Mary and Martha Word Line Up activity page (One per kid), pens or pencils

What You Do: Let kids work alone or as a group on the Mary and Martha Word Line Up activity page.