



WEEK FIVE - MARCH 2019 - KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Basic Instructions • Matthew 22:34-40*

Bottom Line: *God made me to love others.*

Memory Verse: *“How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.” - Psalm 139:14 NIrV*

Life App: *Individuality - Discovering who you are meant to be*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated.*

Summary: We finish the month looking at Matthew 22:34-40. With the greatest commandment, Jesus clarified what it meant to follow God. Instead of following hundreds of commands, Jesus said we are to love God and love others as we love ourselves. When we put this into practice, it helps us prioritize love in all of our relationships.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Red, pink, purple, and/or white paper, scissors, crayons, zip-top baggies, permanent marker

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Collect kids' offerings as they arrive and set out the supplies so kids can reach them.
- Tell kids to use the supplies to make hearts. Encourage them to be creative and make them however they wish. They can cut them out, draw them, etc.
- Show them how to fold a piece of paper in half to cut out a heart.
- Use the permanent marker to write each kid's name on a baggie. Tell kids to put their hearts inside their baggie to use again during Prayer.

2. Hot Heart

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Plush or plastic heart, music

What You Do:

- Play a game similar to "Hot Potato" with the heart.
- Guide kids to sit in a tight circle, and hand the heart to one kid.
- Start the music, and instruct kids to pass the heart around the circle.
- When the music stops, the kid with the heart holds it up and says the name of someone he loves.
- Continue playing as long as interest holds.
 - *Note: Unlike the game of "Hot Potato," kids are not "out" when they get caught with the heart when the music stops. They simply say the name of someone they love and play continues.*

What You Say:

"You all sure love a lot of people! I love a lot of people too. [Transition] Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear what God has to say about love."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *God made me to love others. We're not meant to do life on our own. God made us for relationships. But for those relationships to thrive, we need to put love as the goal. We hope that kids start to understand how they can love the people God has put into their lives.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. We Can Love

[Application Activity]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Divide kids into groups of two or three.
- Assign a scenario to each group:
 - Your baby sister just woke up and started crying but your mom is in the shower.
 - Your dad got home from work and just plopped down in his chair because he's so tired.
 - Your friend's dog died last night.
 - Your brother wants you to play his favorite video game, but you want him to play yours.
 - Your grandpa is in the hospital.
- Tell groups to each come up with TWO ways they could show love in that scenario. They should talk about things they could do AND words they could say.
- Allow time for groups to share their ideas with everyone else.

What You Say:

"You guys and girls are GOOD at knowing how to love people! When we go home, let's remember to look for ways we can show love for the people in our families. Let's look for ways to love people at school. We can show love to people wherever we go. God made you to love others, and [Bottom Line] God made me to love others, too!" [Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a way you will show love to someone in your family or at work this week.)

2. Verse Hangers

[Memory Verse Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: "Door Hangers" Activity Page, markers, decorating materials, Bibles

What You Do:

- Help kids look up Psalm 139:14 in their Bibles. Use the tips in Week One if needed.

- Read the verse aloud several times.
- Give each child a door hanger, and set out the markers and decorating materials.
- Read the door hanger, and point out the blank space.
- Tell kids to write their name in the blank space.
- Guide kids to each read/say the sentence with their name inserted.
- Give them time to color and decorate their door hangers.

What You Say:

*“I want you to take these home and put them on a doorknob in the place you live to remind you that God made you to be special and amazing and wonderful. Today we learned that God also made you to love Him and to love others. That is so awesome! **[Bottom Line]** God made me to love others, and He made you to love others, too!”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Kids’ hearts from Early Arriver

What You Do:

- Hand out kids’ hearts from earlier.
- Challenge kids to think of people they can give their hearts to in order to show them love.
- Tell kids to hold their hearts as they silently pray for those people.

What You Say:

***[Bottom Line]** “God made me to love others, and He made you to love others, too! Don’t forget to give those hearts to people this week in order to show them how much they are loved both by you AND by God.”*

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids why they have hearts and who they’re going to give them to.