



WEEK FOUR – FEBRUARY 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *All for Love • Mark 14:1–9 (Supporting: John 12:1–8)*

Bottom Line: *Love God with everything you’ve got.*

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*

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

Summary: In Mark 14:1–9, we see that towards the end of Jesus’ life He was at the home of a man named Simon. While He was there, a woman approached with an expensive jar of perfume. She surprised everyone as she broke the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus’ head. Many were angry and said she could have sold it and given the money to the poor. But Jesus told the crowd to leave her alone. What she was doing was important for what was to happen as He would go to the cross for us.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Put Your Whole Self In

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: White Butcher Paper; markers

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Sing and do the actions to the “Hokey Pokey” with the kids.
- Before singing the final verse (“Put your whole self in”), add as many verses as you want, with various body parts. Get silly with it! (“Put your right pointer fingernail in.” “Put your left big toe in.” “Put your right nostril in.”)
- Finish it off with a rousing “Put your whole self in” verse.
- Encourage kids to give it everything they’ve got.

What You Say:

*“Whew! You really gave it everything you’ve got on that song—especially the last verse!
[Transition] Let’s put our whole selves in to going to Large Group and listening with everything we’ve got.”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Love God with everything you’ve got. Sometimes it’s hard for kids to understand how they can love God. We hope that through this story of the woman who anointed Jesus, they’ll start to realize that loving God can look like singing worship songs, but it can also mean doing their best, being generous to others, or putting others first. We’re all different, so we hope to help kids understand how they can love God individually with everything they’ve got.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Spoons Review

[Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Index cards, prepared index cards, two spoons

What You Do:

- Have the kids sit in a circle.
- Shuffle the index cards (including the ones with “Love God” on them) and place one index card, face down, in front of each kid.
- Put the spoons in the center of the circle, at an equal distance from everyone.
- On your count of three, kids should turn their cards over.
- The three kids with the “Love God Cards” will try to be the first to take a spoon.
- The two kids to get the spoons will answer a review question.
- Collect and shuffle the cards and place them face down in front of each kid again.
- Play continues till everyone has had a chance to answer a question.
 - **NOTE:** *If a kid has already answered a question, have her give her spoon to another kid who has not.*
- Review questions:
 - What did the woman visiting with Jesus bring with her? (A sealed jar that had expensive perfume in it)
 - What did the woman do with the perfume? (She broke the jar open and poured the perfume on Jesus’ head)
 - What was the name of the lady who used her perfume for Jesus? (Mary)
 - Why were some people angry? (Because they felt that the woman wasted her very expensive perfume)
 - What did the angry people think Mary should have done with the perfume instead? (Sell it to give money to the poor)
 - What was Jesus’ reaction to toward those who were angry with Mary? (He told them to not bother her and to leave her alone; He told them that she had actually done a beautiful/good thing)
 - Why did Jesus say that pouring perfume over His head was a beautiful/good thing? (She would have other opportunities to take care of the poor; however, Jesus was leaving, so Mary used it as an opportunity to love Him before He had to die)
 - How did the woman show Jesus love? (By giving Jesus her best and most expensive perfume)
 - (This question can be used multiple times) What is one way you can **[Bottom Line] love God with everything you’ve got?** (By loving those around you, by putting others first, by doing a chore for a family member, by letting a friend have the first pick from the prize bucket)

What You Say:

“I love today’s story! Jesus defended Mary when other people accused her of wasting her perfume. He told them to leave her alone! The thing that impressed Jesus is that Mary didn’t hold anything back. She didn’t pour just a little perfume but ALL of it as a way of expressing her love for Jesus—no matter what anyone thought. This doesn’t mean we have to go out and give up something really expensive to show our love. But instead, God wants us to know that He is worthy of everything we’ve got and we should do everything we can to show God we love Him.

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about one thing you do on a regular basis to [Bottom Line] love God with everything you’ve got. How does this practice make a difference in your life? Maybe you worship out loud at home or silence your cell phone and shut off the radio in the car so you can talk to God. Maybe you take long walks and listen to sermons. Maybe you read your Bible and pray first thing in the morning. Maybe you give money or volunteer your time somewhere. Share an example of one way you choose to love God with everything you’ve got.)

*“We all have chances each day to give our best and **[Bottom Line] love God with everything you’ve got.** Let’s look for them this week.”*

2. Give It Your Best**[Application Activity]**

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

What You Need: “Best or Leftover Scenarios” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Ask kids what they think “leftovers” means. (extra; what’s left after a meal)
- Tell the group that you are going to read a scenario.
 - If the kids think the shared scenario belongs in the “giving it our BEST” category, they should give it a thumbs up.
 - You will then give them a command that they should perform with all their might, without complaining.
 - If the kids think the shared scenario is “giving it our LEFTOVERS” they should give it a thumbs down.
 - You will then give them a command that they should perform half-heartedly.
- *Optional: You can modify the actions/commands to fit your environment. If you choose to do so, make sure that the thumbs-up commands are harder to do.)*

What You Say:

*“Those were real–life situations! You did a great job figuring out what it means to give your ‘best’ versus ‘leftovers.’ I loved watching you pour your heart and energy into the tasks that needed your best! Those commands took a lot more energy than the leftover commands, didn’t they? And yet, you did them with all your might without complaining. Way to go! Sometimes giving our best might cost us something we may have a hard time giving up, like our time or our efforts, and even our things. When you give your best, you can **[Bottom Line] love God with everything you’ve got.** It’s one way we can thank God for all He’s done for us.”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Gather the group in a circle.
- Go around the circle and ask kids to each share one way they can give their best to God this week. (Don’t force anyone to share, but do encourage each kid to say something, even if you are giving them an answer before they say it themselves.)
- Offer suggestions such as: praying from the heart, committing to reading their Bible before bed or before school, working on their GodTime cards, memorizing the verse, showing love to someone who’s hard to get along with, etc.
- Pray with kids using the suggestion below.
- If anyone would like to pray aloud for the group, let a couple of volunteers do so.

What You Say:

*“We want to **[Bottom Line] love God with everything you’ve got.** Please give us the strength and courage to give our best this week by (ask kids to silently insert what they shared during your discussion). Thank You for helping us live like we know what really matters. Amen.”*

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to share one way they have planned to give God their best this week.

