

WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for loving each of us enough to send Jesus. Pray that kids would learn that when they take the love God gives and use it to love others, they can make waves that change the world around them. Thank God for the power of the Spirit to help everyone who follows Jesus to change the world for the better.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?

We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Love others because
God loves you.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

MAKE WAVES

**What you do today can
change the world around you.**

BASIC TRUTH

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

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought offerings to place them in the container.
- Ask kids to think of something (but not say it out loud) they like to eat for breakfast.
- Explain that when you count to three, everyone will shout out their answer at the same time.
- Repeat several times using the following categories or others you choose.
 - Zoo animal
 - Color
 - Letter of the alphabet
 - Favorite flavor of ice cream
 - Superhero
 - Word that begins with a "B"
 - Number
 - Something in the room
- After each round, challenge kids to name all of the answers they heard.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



*HE DOMINO EFFECT

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, Dominoes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Form two or three teams of kids.
- Give each team ten Dominoes.
- Demonstrate how to arrange a row of dominoes about an inch apart in a line. (If helpful, show kids a video clip of how to build and topple a row of dominoes.)
- Explain that you will read aloud the verses from today's story, 1 John 4:9-13.
- Whenever you come to the word "LOVE" you'll pause and give them time to add one domino to their line, being very careful not to knock them over.
- After you finish reading, let kids tap a domino at the end of their row and watch what happens.
- Invite kids to share their observations of how ONE domino changed everything.
- Remind them that God's love should spread out to others like a wave of dominoes.
- Ask kids to share examples of ways God has loved us and how we can love others.
 - For each example, tell them to reset one of the dominoes in their pile.
 - Or have teams each add a domino to make one very long and winding row.
- Challenge kids to knock over their rows of dominoes and finish saying today's Bottom Line before the last domino falls.

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MAKE WAVES

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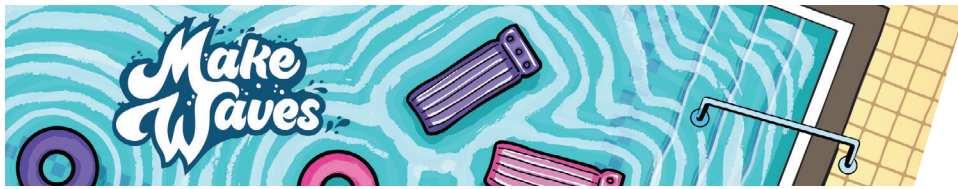
BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"When you choose to **love others because God loves you**, it can really make a difference. Being kind, generous, and helpful spreads God's love to those around you. Sometimes that's hard to do. It helps to remember how much God always loves you, no matter what. When you think about how much God has done to show love for you, it makes it easier to love others. God cares for you every day. God even gave you Jesus to die for you. That's a LOT of love. God loved you first, and God will keep loving you for as long as you live. Let's keep the wave of love going this week by showing God's love to others."

[Make it Personal] (Share about a time you were shown love by someone and it encouraged you to follow their example by showing love to someone else.)



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



WAND WAVES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, ribbon wands

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help kids look up the memory verse using the navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?

We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

***Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to "Galatians" at the top of the page as you say, "Galatians." Then guide kids to find the big number 5 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 5 for the little 22 and explain that this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others because
God loves you.

***Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Galatians in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Galatians starts with the letters G-A. When the kids find Galatians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Galatians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Galatians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 5. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 22 and 23 in chapter 5. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
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- Explain that, through Jesus, God gives us the help of the Holy Spirit to show the fruit of the Spirit, even when we don't feel like it. We need God's help to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, and all the rest of the things in this list.
- Give each kid a ribbon wand.
- Guide kids to wave their wand in the air to form the shape of the first letter in each word as they repeat each fruit of the Spirit with you one by one.

MAKE WAVES

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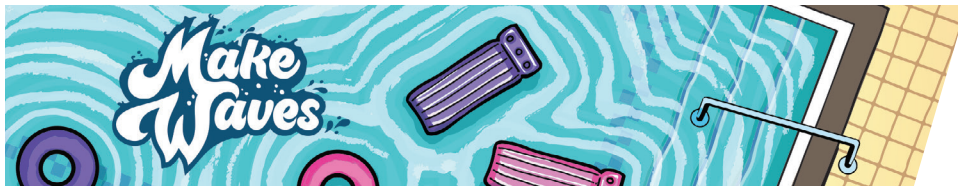
WHAT YOU SAY:

"So tell me, who does God want YOU to love? (Pause as kids share names of those they can love.) That's exactly right! In fact, God wants us to love EVERYONE. Here's another question for you: WHY does God want you to show love? (Pause.) You're right again! You can **love others because God loves you.** God will help you do this! All you have to do is ask!"

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.





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ONE
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SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Lead kids in saying today's Bottom Line together several times. **Love others because God loves you.**
- Explain that you will begin a prayer then each time you pause, it's their turn to say this variation of today's Bottom Line together as part of the prayer: Love others because God loves me.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?

We Love Because
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1 John 4:9-13

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, when I feel like getting mad at someone, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me. When I don't feel like being kind, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me. When someone else gets to be first and I have to go last, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Love others because
God loves you.**

"When someone needs help, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me. When someone is being mean to me, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me. When I feel like getting even, remind me to (*pause*) love others because God loves me. Thank You for Your love and for showing us how to love others. In Jesus' name, amen."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit
produces is love, joy and peace.
It is being patient, kind and good.
It is being faithful and gentle and
having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to say the Bottom Line. **Love others because God loves you.**

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BASIC TRUTH

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