



WEEK
ONE
AUGUST 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What are some things or who are some people you love?
- What are some ways you can show love to God?
- What are some practical ways you can show love to others around you?
- When you show love to others, what does that show them about God?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

L-O-V-E

Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:34-40

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What do you love?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love God by loving others.

MONTHLY 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, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Love—Showing others how much they matter to you

BASIC TRUTH

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





A love story
for the ages

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MADE TO PLAY

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



VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Verse Words" Activity Pages, cup or bowl, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out Bibles and ask kids to turn to 1 John 4:10.

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***Finding verses with 4th and 5th 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. Ask your group to tell you if 1 John is in the Old Testament or New Testament. Instruct kids to start flipping from the back half of their Bible, slowly going forward to find the book they're looking for. Help the kids find the page. When they find 1 John, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 10 in chapter 4.*

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What do you love?

- Place prepared "Verse Words" Activity Pages in a cup or bowl and mix them up.
- Allow kids to take turns drawing a word from the cup or bowl until every word has been claimed.
- Tell kids to go ahead and look at the papers they chose and then explain that as a group they will work together to read the entire verse. Each person will say the words they drew when those particular words come up next in the verse. Kids can use their Bibles for reference, or you can write the verse on a white board if you prefer.
- Go through the verse again, but this time instruct kids to pass their papers to the person on their left so everyone has different words to say.
- Continue with any additional rounds as time and interest allow.
- Ask the following questions:
 - What is love?
 - What does sending God's own Son have to do with love?
- Encourage kids to learn and memorize 1 John 4:10 this month.

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Index cards, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid two index cards and a pen or pencil.
- Instruct kids to write, "Love God" at the top of one of their index cards.
- Then ask them to write, "Love Others" at the top of their other index card.
- Explain that you are going to give them some time to think quietly for a bit about things going on in their own lives.
- Encourage them to think of with two prayer requests for themselves: one that falls under the category of "Love God" and one that falls under "Love Others."
- They can ask for God's help when it comes to loving others; they can pray about a specific person who has been hard for them to love or ask to feel God's presence as they grow in their faith.
 - **[Make it Personal] (Make sure to share with the group examples of ways that you're going to be praying for yourself when it comes to these two things.)**
- After everyone has had a chance to write something down on each card, encourage them to take their cards home with them and keep them somewhere they will see them every day.
- Challenge them to pray for those specific requests each day over the next week.
- Ask if there are any specific requests anyone would like to share with the group.
- Close by praying aloud for the group.

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