



A love story for the ages

WEEK  
**THREE**  
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:**

- Why do you think we choose to do the wrong thing even when we know what the right thing is?
- How does it make you feel when you have messed up?
- Who has loved you even when you've messed up?
- Do you ever feel like God doesn't love you?
- What are some things that remind you that God loves you no matter what?

*Note: Take the opportunity to assure kids that they are defined not by the things they do, but by the love God has for them.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**No Matter What**

The Fall  
Genesis 3  
(Genesis 2:15-17; The Gospels)

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

**Who has loved you even when you've messed up?**

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**God loves us no matter what.**

### 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 can trust God no matter what.**





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### MADE TO MOVE

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



### VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Six prepared books, Bibles, "Love Verses" Activity Page, masking tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Divide kids into two teams.
- Create a "Start" line with masking tape and ask kids to line up with their teams.
- Place each prepared stack of books on the opposite end of your group space.
- Explain that teams will relay race to the other end, where each player will have to flip through the pages of their books to find a slip of paper with a verse reference on it.
- Once a player has found a verse reference, they will run back to their team, and let the next person in line go.
- Continue until all verse references have been found.
- Teams will then work together to look up each verse in the Bible, using the strip of paper as a bookmark each time they find a verse.
- The first team to locate all their verses in the Bible is the winning team.
- Give each team a chance to take turns reading all their verses out loud for the group. (If there were any kids who did not get to participate in the race, be sure to give those kids a turn by letting them read a verse.)
- Ask:
  - If we look at all of these verses together, what does it say about God's love for us? (*There's a lot of it; God shows love to us in different ways; people throughout biblical history have continuously been experiencing God's love*)
  - What can you do when you feel like the things you've done wrong get in the way of God loving you? (*Look back at these verses; look for even more verses that talk about God's love; use these verses as prayers*)

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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:**

- Hand out index cards and pens or pencils to the group and have everyone spread out so they have some privacy

as they write.

- Ask kids to think about a time this past week where they messed up and did the wrong thing in a situation.
- Be sure to point out that we ALL mess up and that we've all had times where we respond in the wrong way.
- Give kids a moment to write down what happened.
- Allow anyone who wants to share to have an opportunity to talk about what happened.
- Explain that even when we choose not to respond the way we should, God still loves us. God's love wins out over everything, no matter what.
- Give kids time to pray silently for a few minutes, thanking God for love.
- Close by praying for the whole group.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, thank You for the epic love You have for us. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your only Son to make a way for us to have a relationship with You now and forever. Please help us to feel Your love for us when we feel bad about something we've done. Remind us that You love us no matter what, and help us to do better in the same situation next time. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

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