

JESUS TAUGHT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

1s–2s: Place the snack on the tables.

3s–5s: Choose children to help serve the snack. Ask a volunteer to pray. Remind preschoolers to clean their snack areas.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

1s–2s: Tell the Bible story as the children snack. Then allow the children to play in the room.

3s–5s: Lead the preschoolers to repeatedly spell as they walk: “L-O-V-E.”

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

JESUS TAUGHT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER —BASED ON MATTHEW 5:1-2, 43-48; MARK 12:28-31

- Ask: “What is a commandment? A *commandment* is “a rule or a law.” Listen to hear two commandments. Open the Bible to Matthew 5. Tell the Bible story.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

(Use words in **bold** for babies–2s; all words for 3s–5s.)

- One day, **Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down with His** disciples (helpers) and began teaching the people.
- **Jesus taught people to love one another, even when they are mean or unkind.**
- Another time, Jesus was talking to some of the temple (church) leaders. **A man** heard them and **asked, “What is the most important commandment?”**
- **Jesus said, “There is one God.** The most important commandment is to **love God very much**—with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second most important commandment is to **love other people as much as you love yourself. These are the greatest commands.”**

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- What did the man ask Jesus?
- What did Jesus say is the most important commandment?
- What did Jesus say is the second most important commandment?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Say that Jesus taught to love one another.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus loves people.

LIFE POINT

Jesus taught to love one another.

UNIT VERSE

God sent Jesus to teach the good news. Luke 4:18

WEEKLY VERSE

Jesus said, “Love other people.” Mark 12:31

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”:

*Love, love, love your friends, friends and family.
God tells us in our Bible, we should love everyone.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Demonstrate how to put both hands together while pointing both thumbs down to create the point of a heart, and curling fingers to create the rounded part of a heart. Open a Bible to Mark 12:31. Lead the kids to say the verse after using showing their heart hands.

PRAY

Invite the kids to state prayer requests. Ask for volunteers to pray. Close the prayer, thanking God for His love for us and asking Him to help us love one another.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: Jesus taught to love one another.

1. **Make beaded hearts.** Give each child a chenille stem and colored plastic beads. **Caution:** Small beads can pose a choking hazard. Assist a child in threading the beads on the chenille stem.

Talk as you work together about people we can show love to. Encourage each child to almost fill his chenille stem with beads. Twist the two ends together to hold the beads in place. Help the child bend the chenille stem to make a heart. Cover pointy ends with tape. Say the Life Point: “Jesus taught to love one another.”

Adapt for Babies–2s: Play with pop beads.

2. **Form with play dough.** Post the “Allergy Alert” (Printables). Provide play dough, rolling pins, and heart-shaped cookie cutters for the kids to use. Invite them to make hearts using play dough. Lead the preschoolers to talk about ways they can show love to other people. Remind them that Jesus taught to love one another.

Adapt for Babies–2s: Let the kids explore and build with shapes/shape blocks (include a heart).

3. **Clip the heart.** Cut a heart shape out of construction paper. Invite the boys and girls to sit in a circle. Give each child a clothespin. Demonstrate how to open and close the

clothespin. Place your clothespin on the heart. Pass it to the next child in the circle, allowing her to clip her clothespin on the heart while you take yours off. Continue passing the heart around the circle using the clothespins. Say that Jesus loves people, and He taught that we should love others, too.

Adapt for Babies–1s: Let the kids drop clothespins into a container.

4. **Choose craft sticks.** Draw a red heart on one end of 5 craft sticks and a blue heart on one end of 5 different craft sticks. Place the craft sticks in a plastic cup, hearts side down. Invite a child to choose a craft stick from the cup. Lead everyone to repeat the Bible verse together when a red heart is chosen: “Jesus said, ‘Love other people’ Mark 12:31.” Encourage all of the children to give each other high fives when a blue heart is chosen. Continue playing as time allows.

Adapt for Babies–2s: Let the kids play with different shape sorters.

CLEAN UP

Invite the kids to clean up their activities.

PLAY A FREEZE GAME

Play “The Dancin’ Song” (Music) or lively music from your cell phone or other source. Invite the kids to move about while the music plays. Stop the music and instruct the kids to freeze in place, without moving, until you play the music again. Gently and playfully point to kids who do not freeze, but allow them to continue playing the game with the group. Continue playing as time allows.

DISMISS

Help the kids gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind the parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.