

♥ Just as I Have Loved You ♥

John 15:9-17

 YouTube <https://youtu.be/H--OT75iN3U>

Theme Because Jesus loves us, we should love others too!

Memory Verse: “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12)

Introduction

What do you love in life? Do you love your mom and dad? Your friends? Your toys? Food? No matter what you love, I'm sure you have all been disappointed by love. Sometimes you are disappointed by your friends who hurt your feelings. Or you may be disappointed by your parents when they scold you. Or you may be disappointed when the food doesn't taste delicious! Or when your toys break

Message:

But there is one important relationship we have that promises to never ever disappoint us...that's our friendship with Jesus! It might seem strange to think of Him as a friend. After all, we don't see Him in person or talk to Him on the phone. But Jesus calls us His friends. He told the disciples that they were not servants, but friends, and that they should abide in His love and love one another. Well, we are His disciples now, and Jesus wants us to share His love and rest in His friendship. Jesus said that the best love someone can have is to give up his life for friends. That might sound a bit extreme...but it's exactly what Jesus did for us! We can be confident in His love for us because we know He died for us. Sometimes, sadly, our relationships with people might disappoint us. People might be angry at us and hurt our feelings. But Jesus will never leave us. He loves us! He is the very best kind of relationship we can have. And even though we don't see Him face to face, we can pray, and read our Bible, and talk with others who know Him.

Applications:

You know what else? Jesus wants us to love one another. Our human attempts at being kind and caring might fail, but we can trust Him to work in us to show love. Jesus said that if we love Him, we'll demonstrate that by staying connected to Him and by sharing His love with those around us.

We can show kindness and courtesy, listen to others, and help others. We can let the light of Jesus shine in our lives. We show that we are connected to Him by reaching out and caring for our earthly relationships. And we remember that He is the greatest friend

of all. He loves us and died for us even when we were not perfect. He's the very best example of friendship. We should try our best to be like Jesus!

Let's Pray: (Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus
He is the greatest friend we could have
Help us remember your presence
And share your love with those around us
Thank you for your love We love you, God!
In Jesus's name, Amen!



Activities:

Here are some activities for this lesson. To think about the theme of loving God and loving each other, let's answer some questions!

1. You see a new kid at school that no one will talk to or play with. What would you say or do? In 1 Corinthians it says that love is kind, so we should be nice, loving, and accepting to the new kid, even if other people aren't.
2. What would you do if you had lots of snacks and your brother or sister asked if you would share? Maybe your brother or sister didn't share the snacks with you in the past! But God says that love is not selfish, so you should think of others more than yourself.
3. Finally, if you broke a plate, would you tell your parents it was you, or would you blame it on the dog? Who likes getting in trouble? Not me! But does that make it ok to tell a lie? Nope. The Bible tells us that love rejoices in truth.

Craft

For craft, the children can cut out hearts and write things that they can do to show love to others. Then they can glue it together to make a wreath!



See you next time!