

Need to Know: *Show Love in Everything You Do*

Bible Story: *Mary Shows Love to Jesus (Mathew 26:6-12)*

Circle Up

1

1. WELCOME kids to small group, and TELL them your name.
2. SAY: *To start small group today, we're going to go around the circle with this "No Homework" Pass. When it comes to you, tell us your name and what subject you would like your teacher to give you an unlimited "No Homework" Pass in?*
3. SEND the "No Homework" Pass around the circle, and ALLOW kids to share.
4. Once everyone has had a chance to share, SAY: *It's a great feeling when other people show love to us. But to survive school, we need to make sure we are showing love to our teachers and our classmates in everything we do. Let's all say this together!*
5. HAVE kids repeat the Need to Know after you: *Show Love in Everything You Do*

Read the Bible

2

1. SAY: *Let's read a Bible story to help us remember to show love in everything we do.*
2. READ the **Bible Story Cards** to the group. Then, ASK the following questions:
 - *What did Mary have that was very expensive? (Jar of perfume) You got it! What did she do with the jar of perfume? (She poured it on Jesus' head) Would pouring perfume on someone's head be a way to show love today? (No) Probably not! We don't do that today but in that day and time, pouring perfume on someone's head or feet was an act of showing honor, respect and love.*
 - *What did the disciples think Mary was doing with the perfume? (Wasting it)*
 - *When Jesus heard what the disciples were saying, what did he tell them to do? (To stop bothering her) Jesus told them that what she had done would be talked about for a long time. What do you think that means? (ALLOW kids to share)*
3. SAY: *Just like Mary showed love to Jesus by pouring perfume on his head, we can look for ways to show love to everyone we know. We may not pour perfume on their heads, but there are other things we can do to show love. Today we will talk about those things!*

Let's Practice

3

Option 1: Play "Starburst Link Up"

1. TELL each child to find a partner to sit with. If there is an odd number of kids, the leader should play.
2. Once everyone is sitting with their partner, **SANITIZE** hands. PLACE all of the **Starburst** candies (enough for each child to have two) in the middle of the group. Then, PLACE a **cup** in front of each child. After hands are **sanitized**, each pair will take four Starbursts from the middle of the group.
3. Once each pair has four Starbursts, EXPLAIN the game by saying: *You and your partner are going to play a game where you will work together to unwrap four Starburst candies. To make it challenging, you will lock your arms together so you are only able to use your free hands to unwrap them. You will put two unwrapped Starbursts in one person's cup and two in the other person's cup. You will need to show love to each other while you work. You can say kind words, and you can help in ways your partner might need it. The first team to finish unwrapping all four candies will be the winner.*
4. TELL kids when to start. As they play, LOOK and LISTEN for teams who are showing love to each other and BRAG on them. At the end of the game, ALLOW kids to eat the two opened Starbursts in their cups. As they're eating, READ the **Question Sheet** to the group.
5. REVIEW the Need to Know: *Show Love in Everything You Do*

Option 2: Generate Group Discussion

1. SHARE about someone in your life who has showed love to you. MAKE SURE it's appropriate for the age group.
2. GENERATE additional group discussion for 5 to 6 minutes by asking the following questions:
 - *What are you like in the morning getting ready for school? Is it easy or hard for you to show love?*
 - *When you don't get what you want, what do other people see you do?*
 - *What are some ways you can show love to your teacher this week?*
3. REVIEW the Need to Know with the group: *Show Love in Everything You Do*

Memorize It

4

1. SAY: *During this series we've been memorizing a verse that helps us remember to hold on to the things God teaches us in the Bible!*

"Hold on to instruction, (open hands out and then close into a fist)

do not let it go; (bring fists to chest and shake your head side-to-side)

guard it well, (keep hands in fists and cross arms)

for it is your life." ("why" motion, with arms bent at side and palms up)

Proverbs 4:13 (hold up four fingers)

2. If you have enough time, PLAY a game with the group to review the verse. START the game by saying: **Let's play a game to practice the verse!**
 - DIVIDE kids into two teams, and GIVE each team a set of **Memory Verse Cards**, making sure each child has at least one of his/her team's **Cards**. Some kids will have two **Cards**.
 - ALLOW kids to race to put them in order. The team that puts them in the correct order the fastest is the winning team!
 - REVIEW the verse with the group one last time before collecting the **Memory Verse Cards**.
3. Then, PLACE **coloring utensils** in the middle of the circle, and GIVE each child a **Tic-Tac-Toe Sheet**. ALLOW kids to play "Tic-Tac-Toe" with a partner while you give each child a chance to say the verse to you.

Let's Pray

5

ASK your group for any prayer requests. Then, PRAY the following for your group:

- That they would be looking for ways to show love at school
- That they would be thankful when other people show them love
- That they would hold on to everything they've learned during this series and not let it go

Stay Together

6

KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing any of the following activities:

- ALLOW kids to share some of their favorite memories from school.
- HAVE kids complete a "Wacky Physical Fitness" test from P.E.:
 - Do one push-up
 - Honk your nose three times
 - Stand on one foot and count to six
 - Do five jumping jacks
 - Pat your head four times
 - Jog in place and count to eight
 - Flap arms like a chicken and count to seven
 - Bend down and count to ten
- PLAY a version of "Simon Says" called "Lunch Lady Says," making up your own motions for kids to do or using some of the following:
 - Touch your nose
 - Spin around
 - Clap
 - Pat your knees
 - Make a silly face
 - Pat your head