

BIBLE STORY

The Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Corinthians 13

MEMORY VERSE

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith."
Hebrews 12:2a, NIV

BOTTOM LINE

You can LIVE for God by loving others.

1. REFLECTION (Pre-school w/ assistance & Elementary)

The Greatest Commandment

WHAT YOU NEED: Mirrors, "Reflect Cards" (included)

Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Corinthians 13

WHAT YOU DO:

- Select one person to be the actor.

MEMORY VERSE

- Give everyone a mirror, except for the actor.
- Explain the game of charades. To play: o Have your back facing the actor. "Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a, NIV

o Use the mirror to see the actor. o Actors will act out words from the "Reflect Cards" without making

a sound. o Guess the "word" o Switch actors each round, making sure everyone gets a chance to be an actor.

BOTTOM LINE: You can LIVE for God by loving others.

WHAT YOU SAY: "When you look in a mirror, what do you see? You see yourself, right? But in our game of charades, if you focused on yourself, you couldn't see the actor. It is like that when we want to LIVE for God. We have to look past ourselves and focus on ways to love others. When you look beyond yourselves, **you can LIVE for God by loving others. But what does it look like to love others?** Can anyone remember some of the ways Paul described love in our story today? (option - open a Bible to 1 Corinthians 13 and read verses 4-8a. Love is patient, kind, not selfish, not boastful, looks out for others, treats others with respect.) When we love others and put others before ourselves, we are actually reflecting God's love to them."

2. LOOKING, LOOKING (Elementary)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, "Looking, Looking Cards" (included), mirrors, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

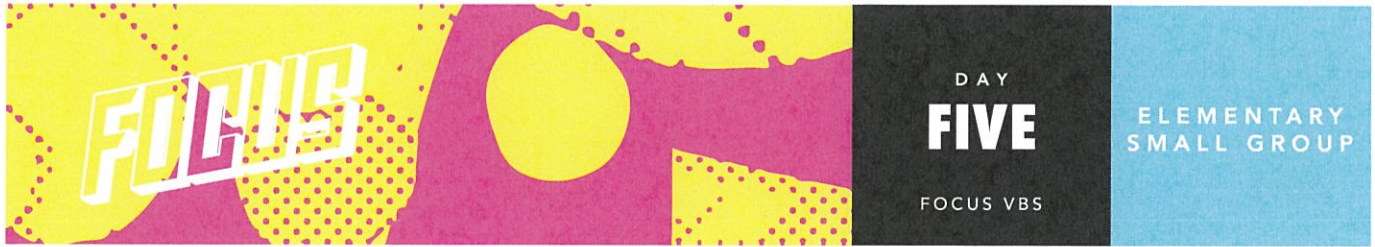
MEMORY VERSE "Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a, NIV

- Give each kid a set of "Looking, Looking Cards," and a pencil.
- Lead kids to hold the cards up to the mirrors to "decode" the words and then write them on the bottom half of the card.

When they finish, challenge them to put the cards in order. They can use their Bibles to help.

BOTTOM LINE: You can LIVE for God by loving others.

"One way God wants us to live is by loving others. We say it this way: you can LIVE for God by loving others. So, what are some ways that you can show God's love to others? (Pause.) Great ideas! So, remember: you can LIVE for God by loving others."



LOVE PARACHUTE (Pre-school)

BIBLE STORY

The Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Corinthians 13

MEMORY VERSE

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith."
Hebrews 12:2a, NIV

BOTTOM LINE

You can LIVE for God by loving others.

WHAT YOU NEED: cut-out paper hearts (included)you can cut additional hearts if desired, and a sheet or towel

WHAT YOU DO: Place the hearts in the middle of the sheet or towel. Help the children hold the edges of the sheet or towel and make the hearts fly into the air and then land on the towel or sheet again.
say "Jesus wants to be my friend forever" as you bounce the hearts.

WHAT YOU SAY: "Jesus loves everyone all the time! We should show love to others, too! We're going to use this parachute and hearts to help us to remember that Jesus loves us SO much and we can love others the way Jesus loves us. And that's a lot of love like all of these hearts. Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. *Who wants to be your friend forever?* Jesus wants to be my friend forever!" Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Craft: Funnel Game (Elementary)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bendy straws; bowls circle template, scissors; pencils; tape; pom-poms

WHAT YOU DO:

- Have kids cut out the circle and the line from outside of circle towards the center.
- Show them how to create a funnel shape out of the circle and secure it with tape.
- Guide kids to cut a small hole in the tip of the funnel and insert the short end of a bendy straw into the hole (from the outside of the funnel). They may need to tape the straw in place.
- Tell kids to place a pom-pom into the funnel, put the long end of the straw into their mouth, and blow.
- If the pom-pom doesn't bounce up, kids may need to add more tape to the funnel to make it airtight.
- Challenge kids to see how high they can get their pom-pom to go. You might also want to create a walking obstacle course they can traverse while blowing pom-pom into air.

WHAT YOU SAY: "Life can be full of ups and downs, like this floating pom-pom challenge. But when you keep your focus on Jesus, you can get through it. I think today's focus is a pretty great one. Loving others is important, because we all need to be loved. Let's say today's Bottom Line together: [Bottom Line] You can LIVE for God by loving others."
(insert picture of craft)

Notebook and Prayer (Elementary & Preschool)

WHAT YOU NEED: Focus Notebooks (with 3D glasses)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give elem. Kids their Focus Notebook and 3D glasses. Look on page 18 to read the Bottom Line for today. "Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a

Ask kids to turn to page 19 in their Focus Notebooks. Ask kids to write on the top of page 19, "One way I can show love to someone this week is . . ."

church

***watering
flowers***

***doing
push-ups***

kangaroo

pillow

grass

stairs

scared

What to Do:

Print and cut apart. Provide one set for each small group.

Reflect Cards

VBS, DAY 5, Small Group 2-3
©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

And he is

the one

who completes

the journey

“of faith.”

Hebrews 12:2 NIV

What to Do:

Print one copy for each kid.

Looking, Looking Cards

VBS, DAY 5, Small Group K-1

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

Let us keep

looking to Jesus.

He is the one

who started

this journey

of faith.

What to Do:
Print one copy for each kid.

Looking, Looking Cards
VBS, DAY 5, Small Group K-1
©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

