

October 14 - Noelle welcome students/Introduce Maddie

October 21 - Intro - God loves us, which frees us to love as he loves (Col 3:12-14) - Maddie

Memory Verse: Col. 3:12 – "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

October 28 - Why does God love us? (Psalm 139)- Rochelle

Memory Verse: Psalm 139: 13-14 - "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

November 4 - God's love is unconditional (Luke 15:11-32) - Maddie?

Tell the story in a compelling way to explain how our heavenly Father loves differently than our earthly fathers. We aren't used to unconditional love - we're used to conditional love and we often give conditional love. *Talk about how shameful it would have been for the father to run to his son who rejected him!

Memory Verse: Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

November 11 - God's love changes us - Mark 2:13-17

Really Jesus? A tax collector? Tax collectors were hated by Jesus' people – the Jews, because the tax collectors would steal from their own people when they collected the taxes!! So no wonder people were surprised when Jesus asked a tax collector to follow him! But when he did ask Levi to follow him, he was asking if he would leave his old life and take up a new one. The tax collector couldn't keep being a tax collector if he followed Jesus. Jesus' love & acceptance of Levi changed him. What is Jesus asking us to leave when we follow him?

Memory Verse: Ephesians 5:1 – "Be imitators of Christ, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

November 18 - OFF November 25 - OFF Thanksgiving

December 2 - God's love is costly (Gospel beads) -

Memory Verse:

December 9 - Kids Store Day Ada Bible Group

December 16 - OFF Christmas Break

December 23 - OFF Christmas Break

December 30 - OFF Christmas Break

January 6 - OFF New Year's Holiday

January 13 - Recap night - Crazy Love - Maddie

January 20 - Love God (Heart/Mind) - Ada Bible Group

January 27 - Love God (Words) - Homeschool group

February 3 – OFF

February 10 - Love God (Hands) - Homeschool group

There are many ways to love God, but one of the most important ways is to follow his commandments. We can *choose* to be kind and to do good things. No one makes us, but we should do it because we love God and we want to show that we love Him. Just like we like when people are nice to us or do nice things for us because it shows that they love us. In addition, we should use the skills that make us unique to glorify Him.

Matthew 25:14-29 (The Story of the Talents)

Matthew 25: God has given us each individual talents that we need to use for His glory. This is a way that we can show our love for Him.

Memory Verse: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." John 14:15

Game: Simon Says (Could possibly have multiple games if there are too many kids)

or

Pitching pennies- have the kids take turns to toss pennies (or other coins) to represent talents, into a bucket, and the team with the most pennies at the end wins.

No Craft

February 17 - Love Others (Heart/Mind) - Koinonia

God has forgiven us of much and so we should live our lives as though we're forgiven. We should live with grace, showing love to others even though they don't always deserve it. This honors God.

It's not that we should love others, it's that we get to. A lot of times we tend to feel that being a Christian is about all of the things that we have to do, but really, it's about what we get to do. Because we have been forgiven, we have so much freedom and we can honor God in that freedom by loving others.

Explain how great a debt Jesus paid by dying on the cross. He loves us SO much. Since He has forgiven us of so much we are free to love and forgive much.

Also, not forgiving others hurts us. It can make us bitter and unhappy because we cannot let go of what they have done to us.

Matthew 18:23-33 (The Unforgiving Servant)

Memory Verse: "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

Game: Stop and Go

One person, designated "It" or "the stoplight," faces away from the rest of the group. The group lines up as far as they can get from the stoplight. When the stoplight yells "Forgiveness" all participants can move forward. As they move they say, "We forgive you." This will help the stoplight hear when participants get closer. The stoplight can turn around and yell, "Stop!" at anytime to stop the movement forward. The stoplight should turn around to see if everyone is stopped (a few people can judge whether or not the kids are moving after the stop light says stop). If any of the kids are still moving, they need to go back to the beginning. Then the stoplight will turn away from the group again, saying, "Forgiveness." The first player to touch the stoplight gets to be the next stoplight.

Craft: Valentines

Explanation: Fold construction paper in half, draw a half heart on the fold and cut it out. This will form a heart. Then, let the kids decorate as they want.

Supplies:

- Glue
- Gemstones
- Stamps
- Markers

- Colored pencils
- Foam stickers
- Kids Scissors
- Construction paper
- Ribbon

To buy:

Table cloth

February 24 - OFF - Mid-Winter Break

March 3 - Love Others (Words) Luke 6:43 -45- Koinonia

Talk about the power of the tongue and how words can hurt or help. Ask if the students have ever been hurt by words before. Ask if they have ever hurt someone with their words. How can they speak in love?

Play the guessing game 'What am I'? I can hide or I can show myself. I am made up of many muscles. I am usually always wet. I can hurt people or help people. I can be curled. I help people taste food. I am usually pink. (Ask questions until a student answers **a tongue**)

Memory Verse: "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

Game: Telephone

Split into groups of around 10 kids with at least one leader. One person starts by passing down a message like "Tongues are squishy." The message is passed down by one child whispering it into the next child's ear. As the message gets passed along, it will probably not remain the same. When it gets to the last person, they say what they heard out loud. The goal is to see how much the message has changed as it is passed from person to person. Split into groups of approximately 10 students per group.

Craft: Puppet

Explanation: Give them a paper and have them cut into a circle. Let them draw a face on it. Attach a popsicle stick to the bottom of the paper. Attach a piece of red paper for a tongue

Supplies

- Paper (cut into a circle) Many different skin tone colors
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Popsicle sticks
- Red or pink paper (in tongue shape)
- Glue
- Goggle eyes?

March 10- Love Others (Hands) - Luke 10:30-37 (The Good Samaritan)- Alf Clark

Samaritans and Jews didn't like each other, but the story of the Good Samaritan tells about a man that set aside his dislike to help someone. He also went against what other people thought was acceptable. This translates into going out of your way to be nice to someone, even if it's hard or maybe other people won't like you for it.

Historical background: The Samaritans lived near the Jews and they didn't get along. They had religious differences as well as ethnic differences. Both cultures discouraged intermingling with the other people group. This caused hatred and prejudice to grow between them. That is why it was so significant when the Samaritan helped a Jew. Even the Jewish religious leaders walked past the Jew without stopping to help, but the Samaritan, whose culture had encouraged him to hate Jews, stopped to help a Jew he didn't even know. He risked being made fun of, looked down upon, or maybe even being punished for helping this Jew, his enemy, but he did it anyway. This can be related to the cultural pressures that our students suffer today.

Commentary on the passage:

https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/the-fourfold-gospel/by-sections/parable-of-the-good-samaritan.html

Memory Verse: "We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Game: Words Can Heal

Have the students split into teams and have one team member stand apart from the others. If there are 30 students, split into 5 teams of 6. If there are 50 students, split into 5 teams of ten. If there are 70 students, split into 7 teams of 10. Each student runs up to the team member standing apart from the rest. They are able to use an ace bandage to wrap a part of the team members body, or they can say something loving to them. This symbolizes the way that words can heal.

Supplies

Ace bandage

Craft: https://www.artycraftykids.com/art/autumn-handprint-tree/ Love tree

Explanation: When we love others by taking action our love spreads out like the branches of a tree. We motivate others to spread the love.

Have the kids draw the outline of their hand on a piece of paper. Then they can color it in (this is the trunk and branches). Let the kids use stamp sticks to put dots on their paper(these are the leaves). One example, write "love grows like a tree." Supplies

• Paper, Crayons or Colored Pencils, Stamp stick

March 17- Love yourself (Heart/Mind) - Philippians 4:8- Rochelle

We need to respect ourselves and God enough to think good thoughts. Whether this means not thinking badly about someone else or yourself, or thinking impure thoughts, we should always honor God.

We need to be careful of our internal dialogue. Would we say the things we think about ourselves to someone else, or let them say it about us? We need to think positively about ourselves because God loves us and we are worth loving. We are imperfect, but Jesus' sacrifice has covered our imperfections.

Reference the previous theme of honoring God with the way we speak. The verse from that week was Luke 6:45. Remind them that it is important to think good thoughts because that affects the things we say, and we need to honor God with our words as well as our thoughts.

Teaching text: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8

Memory Verse: "Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts." Proverbs 4:23

Game: Popping Balloons

Have the kids attach balloons with string around their ankles. The goal is to pop other people's balloons and not to let your own be popped. This signifies us stomping out bad thoughts about ourselves.

Supplies:

- Balloons
- String
- Play music to drown out noise

Craft: Thought Bubbles

- 1. Make thought bubbles and put them on popsicle sticks, kids can put their thoughts on the thought bubbles. Supplies
 - Paper (cut into the shape of thought bubbles)

- Popsicle sticks
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Glue

March 24 - Love yourself (Words)- Dr. White (Collide and Ada)

Jesus loves us and created us each individually and for a purpose. Use this analogy: Say you were a painter and you painted a masterpiece that you were proud of. What if someone then told you that your picture was ugly or not worth anyone's notice. How would you feel? We are God's masterpieces, so how do you think He feels when we say those things about ourselves? Reference when it was talked about in the Fall. Does anyone remember talking about why God loves us? We're talking about something similar- how do we love with our words?

How does the truth we have in Christ affect your self-confidence? When people speak negatively about us or to us, how should we respond internally and externally?

I am a Child of God. In Him, I am loved, important, worthy and more than enough.

The story of God choosing David as King of Israel. 1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to him, "Pay no attention to how tall and handsome he is. I have rejected him, because I do not judge as people judge. They look at the outward appearance, but I look at the heart."

Memory Verse: "For You formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:13-14a

Game:

This week you can reuse one of the kids' favorite games from past weeks

Craft: Faux stained glass https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhCbJ4xQqTE

Explanation: This crafts represents the beauty of the light of Christ's love shining through us. Give each student a piece of wax paper and little pieces of tissue paper. They get to make whatever pattern on the wax paper by gluing tissue paper pieces onto the paper. Then glue popsicle sticks to the edges of the wax paper. The students can also use markers to color on them.

Supplies

- Wax paper
- Colored markers
- Glue sticks

- Glue
- Tissue Paper

March 31 - OFF - Spring Break April 7 - OFF - Spring Break

April 14- Love yourself (Hands) - Ada Bible - *THIS WAS AN ICE DAY

Love your bodies because it honors God

Practical application of loving yourself by not harming yourself and taking care of your body with exercise, healthy habits, brushing your teeth, etc. There is a lot of leeway on what can be spoken about.

Memory Verse: Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and who was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourselves but to God; 1 Corinthians 6:19

Game: Stop and Go

ADA BIBLE WILL BRING GAME

Have one volunteer stand at the end of the gym and all the rest stand at the other end. The goal is to make it across the gym without the volunteer catching you moving. At random times, the volunteer will turn around and everyone needs to freeze. If the volunteer sees that someone was moving after he turns around, they are out for that round.

(Similar game planned for February 17. If it goes well, this game could be reused, but if not, I can come up with a different idea.)

Craft: A Balanced Meal

Explanation: Have a paper plate for each child, in addition to that, have cut outs of different healthy foods for the kids to glue to their plates or just have colored markers for them to draw the food. The idea is that they create a healthy meal. Supplies

- Paper plates
- Glue
- Food cutouts
- Colored markers

April 21- Wrap up theme - Maddie & Rockford Church

- Poster
- Summary of this semester
- Small group Activity
- Put magnets in snack bags (Love each other as I have loved you first)
- Thank you cards for craft

April 28 - Go to Koinonia's play (Kent Theatre)

May 5 - Last Super Saturday

Craft: Finish Thank you Cards to Leaders

You Pick Games

Airtime afterwards for highest CIA Count