

KIDSGATE CURRICULUM

UNIT 2

God knows us
and loves us

We are unique & intentionally created

WEEK 4

The Bible Tells Us that Jesus Loves Us & Want to Be Our Friend

Verse(s): John 15:9-15; NIV

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²**My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.** ¹³**Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.** ¹⁴**You are my friends if you do what I command.** ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.”

KIDSGATE CURRICULUM

UNIT 2

God knows us and loves us

God declares his love in and through the Bible

LESSON OVERVIEW

WEEK

4

THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT JESUS LOVES US AND IS OUR FRIEND

(John 15:9-15; NIV)

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

WEEK

5

THE BIBLE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSES GOD’S UNFAILING LOVE FOR US.

(Psalm 36:5; NIV)

Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

(Psalm 107:3; MSG)

Oh, thank GOD—he’s so good! His love never runs out.

(Psalm 103:8; NIV)

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

WEEK

6

THE BIBLE SHOWS US HOW GOD IS ALWAYS THERE FOR US

(Isaiah 41:13; NIV)

For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, “Fear not, I am the one who helps you.”

WEEK

7

THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT GOD WAS THE FIRST TO LOVE US

1 John 4:19-21; NIV)

We love because he [God] first loved us.

Worship (5-10 minutes)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Play the worship DVD
2. Watch the rules (that are at the beginning of the DVD) every week and try to play the song at least twice

Bible Lesson

DIRECTIONS:

- If possible, have the kids sit down together on the rug or at the table.
- Read the story below (Based on John 15:9-15 & the Lesson Theme)

Once upon a time, there was a wise King who had many children. The King loved his children very much and they did everything together. They would play together, work together, laugh together, and cry together.

One day, the King had to go on a long trip without his children. The King did not want to be without his children, so before he left, he wrote a letter to his family. The letter said:

“Dear Children,

Even though I will be gone from you, please know that I love you very much. Not only are you my precious children, you are also my dearest friends. Remember that you are important to me and that I will be back for you.

Love,

Your father, the King”

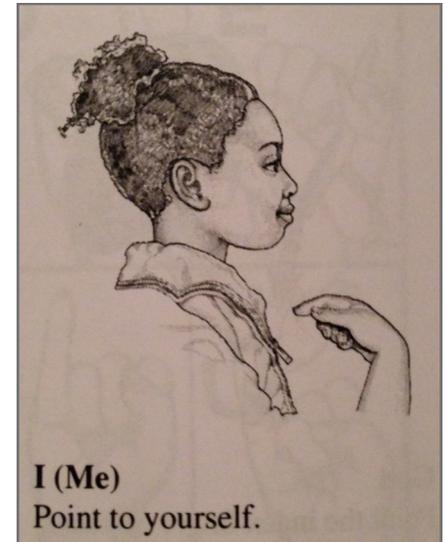
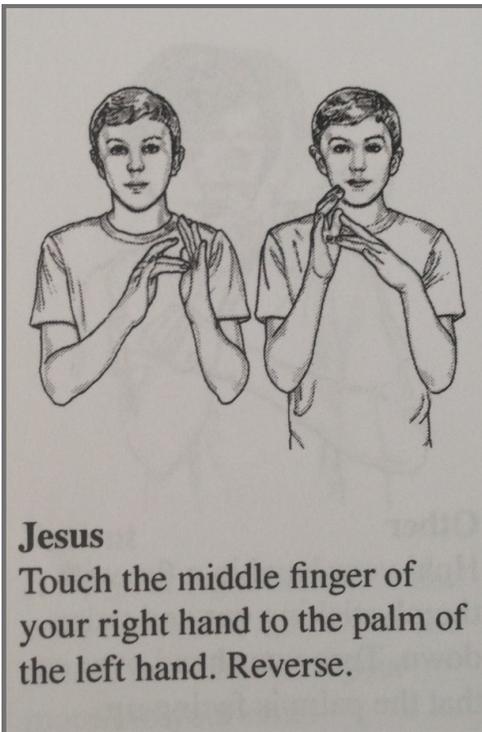
While their Dad was away, the children read the note over and over. They would read the note before bed, when they woke up, before and after school, and even before eating dessert. The letter was a great reminder of their father’s love.

One day, when the children were playing outside, they saw a car coming up the driveway. They all ran towards the car and met their father when he opened the door to greet them. The children all hugged the King at once, so that he fell to the ground in a big group hug.

The King, shocked at first, laughed together with his children until their belly’s were sore. The family was reunited once again, but soon realized they were never really apart, because the love they had for each other kept them together for all time.

Sign Language

- Teach sign language for “Jesus loves me”
- Help the child learn by moving their hand in the correct motion as you say the phrase



Prayer Time

DIRECTIONS:

Intentionally spend time praying for each student. For each prayer:

- Thank God for the child and mention something specific that you enjoy about the child
- Ask God to continue to take care of the child.
- (Feel free to add to this prayer)