

# 23 | W2

## Small Group (15 minutes)

### **Social:** Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Opening Activity

## Large Group (35 minutes)

### **Story:** Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

### **Worship:** Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)

Prayer

## Small Group (25 minutes)

### **Groups:** Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review

Application Activity

Memory Verse Activity

Prayer Activity

## **Home:** Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



### Bible Story

The Most Important Commandment • Matthew 22:34-40

### Bottom Line

Love God. Love others.

### Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV

5 min

# Social

5 min

## 23 Social Activity | Made to Play

### What You Need

Offering Container	1
"People Picture" Activity Page	1

### What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five or fist bump!
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Explain to your group of kids that you're going to play a guessing game.
- Choose one kid to start.
- Tell the kid to pick a picture and hold it up to their forehead, facing out, so everyone else in the circle can see it, but they cannot.
- Instruct the kid to ask "yes" or "no" questions to figure out who is on their picture. (e.g., "Do I wear a uniform?" "Do I work in a school?")
- Share that the other kids can only answer "yes" or "no."
- Help the kids guess and then let the next kid have a turn with a new picture.

### What You Say:

"Great guessing, everyone! There are so many different kinds of people in the world, and they all do important jobs. [Transition] In our true story from the Bible today, Jesus is going to talk about something that's important for ALL people to do. Let's go find out what it is!"

5 min

# Bible Story Review

5 min

## 23 – Most Important Relay | Made to Move

### What You Need

• "Most Important" Activity Page	2
• Drinking straws	1
• Large hearts	Several
• EveryChild Supplies: Paper plates	1

### What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams and have them line up on one side of the room.
- Place the two large heart shapes on the other side of the room.
- Give each team a set of the small tablet cards from the "Most Important" Activity Page.
- Give each kid a straw.
- Show the kids how to pick up one of the cards by placing the straw on it and sucking in.
- Explain the relay: On "Go," the first kid on each team will use their straw to pick up one card and carry it over to the heart.
- After they drop their card on the heart, they are to run back and tag the next kid in line.
- Continue until all the cards have been moved to the heart.
- When they're done, ask: "Jesus was asked about all the commandments. Which one did He say was the first and most important?" (Love God.)
- Ask: "Which commandment did Jesus say was also very important? (Love others.)
- Ask: "What two commandments did Jesus say all of God's Law was based on? (Love God and love others!)

### EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- If using a straw is too difficult, kids can carry the cards in their hands or on a paper plate.

### What You Say:

"You did it! You moved all the commandments to the heart. That's a great way to remember our story. Jesus wasn't stumped by the religious leaders' trick question. He took all those laws and said they were based on two. He said the most important thing we can do is to: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind' (Matthew 22:37 NIV). And then He said to: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself' (Matthew 22:39 NIV). Out of all the commandments, Jesus said the most important things we can do are to [Bottom Line] Love God. Love others."

5 min

# Application Activity

5 min

## 23 – Like and Subscribe | Made to Connect

### What You Need

 "Like and Subscribe" Activity Page 1

### What You Do:

- Give each kid two cards from the "Like and Subscribe" Activity Page.
- Explain that you are going to say some things people might do.
- If it's something that shows love to God or others, the kids are to hold up their "Like" (thumbs up) and "Subscribe" buttons.
- If it's not a loving choice, instruct the kids to turn their thumbs-up button upside-down and hold it up as a "Don't Like" (thumbs down) button.
- Read the following scenarios:
  - "This week, I will help my mom unload the groceries." (Like/Subscribe)
  - "This week, I'm going to fight with my brother over the remote." (Don't Like)
  - "This week, I will share my snack with a friend." (Like/Subscribe)
  - "This week, I will say 'thank you' to God for my food." (Like/Subscribe)
  - "This week, I'm going to leave my toys out for someone else to clean up." (Don't Like)
- Talk about why each choice is loving or not.

### What You Say:

"Great job! It's easy to see which choices show love. Jesus made it simple for us. He said that if we focus on loving God and loving others, then we'll be living how He wants us to live. The best way to live is to [Bottom Line] Love God. Love others. When we follow Jesus, God sends His Holy Spirit to live inside of us, and the Spirit can nudge us with ways to show love to others. Let's try to 'Like and Subscribe' to that idea all week!"

5 min

# Memory Verse Activity

5 min

## 23 – Backpack Tag | Made to Create

### What You Need

 Bibles	Several
 "Backpack Tag" Activity Page	1
 Plastic bag tags with loops like these <a href="https://bit.ly/3JjTZOI">https://bit.ly/3JjTZOI</a>	1
 Coloring Supplies	Several

### What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible.
- Invite them to look up John 13:34 using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses for 2-3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Encourage the kids to set aside the Bibles.
- Say: "Jesus wants us to love one another! In fact, as we learned in our Bible Story today, that is one of the most important things we can do! Let's make something to help us remember that."
- Give every kid a "Backpack Tag" Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies and invite the kids to decorate their "Backpack Tag" Activity Page.

### What You Say:

"Today, you made a special tag for your backpack to remind you of the two most important things God wants you to do, and that is [Bottom Line] Love God. Love others. Now whenever you're at school or practice and see your awesome backpack tag, you can remember to [Bottom Line] Love God. Love others. You can show love to others by doing things like holding the door open for a teacher, inviting someone to play with you, or using kind words. Jesus said we should love one another just as He has loved us. We show our love for God by loving others. That's the main goal!"

## February - Week 2

- Read the words together as kids insert their tag into the plastic sleeve.
- Show kids how to thread the plastic loop through the hole and the other part of the same loop to secure.

5 min

# Prayer

5 min

## 23 – Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

### What You Need

1	Prayer jar from Week 1
1	Bag of candy hearts
Several	Plastic spoons

### What To Do:

- Invite the kids to sit with you in a circle.
- Give each kid a spoon.
- Hold a spoon yourself, but put a candy heart on it.
- Start by passing your candy heart from your spoon to the spoon of the kid next to you without it falling.
- Encourage the kids to pass it to the next kid, and so on around the circle.
- Once the heart has made it all the way around, say, "Great job sharing the love! Now, let's pray."
- Ask each kid to think of one person they want to show love to this week.
- As each kid names their person, let them add a candy heart to the prayer jar.
- Close in prayer.

### What You Say:

"Our prayer jar is getting so full! That means we are doing one of the most important things—loving people by praying for them! Let's pray for the people we named.

"Dear God, thank You for loving us. Help us to love You back with everything we are. And help us to love the people around us, especially [name a few people the kids mentioned]. Show us how to be kind and loving this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."