

GLKIDS FAMILY GROUP CHAT

Week of 10/18/20

Hi Gracelife Family,

No matter the phase of gathering that we are in GraceLife's vision to gather, grow, and go has not and will not change. Therefore we want continue to encourage growth within Gracelife's families. Growth often comes through conversation therefore this "Family Group Chat" will provide weekly conversational helpers and other material related to the sermons as a resource for your family. GraceLife provides this same type of resource for the community group leaders during the fall and spring and to the congregation during community group breaks to be used if so desired to facilitate growth within the community or individually. My goal was to replicate this model to help equip parents as they focus on discipleship and spiritual growth within the home.

Please keep in mind that anytime Gracelife offers a resource, we like to emphasize that it is optional. For this particular resource, if it is used, the conversation should lead so if you don't get to all of this, it's okay. The Holy Spirit is working in your conversations - follow him. Because this is a family discussion this could be used in whatever way works best for your family; once a week, throughout the week, or maybe not at all.

If you decided to use this we would love to see your children doing any of the activities or challenges that are suggested. If you feel comfortable, share pictures of your children completing these on either Facebook or Instagram by tagging Gracelife.

*Courtney Wampler
GLK Early Childhood Coordinator*



GLKIDS

FAMILY GROUP CHAT

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES: Matthew 5:43-48

Introduction

Find a book or movie to read or watch together as a family that demonstrates loving enemies. After talk to your children about how the characters loved their enemies, discuss what may have happened if the character hadn't shown love to the enemy.

Ask your children who people tell them they look like (mom or dad). Show your children pictures of you as a child and talk about how they resemble you. Discuss how you have noticed them doing things as you do, This is imitation - explain how we are called to imitate God as we are his children (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Love Your Enemies

Read the verses together.

Ask your children what they think of when they hear the word "enemy"; Do you have any enemies?

Discuss the word "love" and what it means. In this verse it doesn't mean a feeling but wanting the best for someone and helping them get it (prayer, actions)

We love our enemies because when we were God's enemies he loved us enough to send his son to die for us so we could become his friend.

It is easy to love those who love you but its hard to love people that hurt you.

Is there an enemy so bad or mean that we shouldn't show them love?

God says no. We were the worst enemy to God and he still loved us.

Activity:

Supplies - 3 buckets, 3 bean bags
Label the buckets "family", "friends", and "enemies" - put them in a line, one behind the other - have children stand a few feet in front of the first bucket - have children throw bags into the buckets. It is hard to love our enemies but you can do it with God's help and a little bit of effort.

Bible Story Connection

Saul's Conversion - Acts 9:1-19
Saul was actively demonstrating that he was an enemy of God because he was persecuting Jesus followers. God loved him and transformed his heart - just as he did for us.

God asked Ananias to heal Saul, Ananias wasn't real excited about loving his enemy in this way - sometimes we aren't either.

Video:

[Paul, Jesus, and the Road to Damascus](#) - LifeKids

Resources

Songs:

[Matthew 5:43-48](#) - Fighter Verse Songs

[Love Your Enemies](#) - Kyle Sigmon

Blog Post

[6 Important Things to Teach Your Children about Loving Their Enemies](#) - Parenting Like Hannah



GLKIDS FAMILY GROUP CHAT

October Memory Verse: John 14:15-21

Verse:

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Elementary (1st -th grade): All Verses

Little Learners (4.5 year old - kindergarten): John 14:15-17

Toddlers (2.5 years old to 4.5 years old): John 14:15

Tips and Tricks

Study it :Read the verses in different versions of the Bible. Sometimes this helps gain understanding. There might be a version of this verse that is easier to memorize.

Activity: Print the verse out and cut it into puzzle pieces. Children will put the puzzle together and then read through the verse.

Creative: String it Up
Write a word or phrase on a slip of paper and decorate, punch holes in the paper and string some yarn through it. Then hang the verse from a door frame or window frame.

Creative Movement: Pick one of the songs on the right and have your children develop a dance and/or motions to go with it. Consider looking up some of the words in American Sign Language to use as you develop your motions.

Memory Verse Resources

Illustrated readings:

[John 14:15-21](#)

Songs:

[John 14:15](#) - Jumpstart 3

[John 14:15-17 \(NLT\)](#) - Sing Through the Bible

[John 15:15-18 \(NKJV\)](#) - Esther Mui

About the Holy Spirit:

[There are 3 persons in 1 God](#)

[The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit](#) -

Moody Bible Institute

Book: [The Ology](#) - Ancient Truths Ever New
by Marty Machowski

Challenge

Once your child has memorized their part of the verses you can contact Courtney to schedule a time for your child to recite the verse to her - they will win a prize!!

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