



## MONTHLY OVERVIEW

### GOD VIEW:

**THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FRIENDSHIP AND GOD’S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD’S BIG STORY**

Jesus showed us the greatest example of love when He laid down His life for His friends. With His words and actions, He showed friendship to everyone He met. We can reflect Jesus’ love best when we treat one another with friendship.

### WEEK ONE

**BIBLE STORY**

Two people are better than one  
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

**BOTTOM LINE**

Choose your friends carefully.

### WEEK TWO

**BIBLE STORY**

David and Jonathan  
1 Samuel 20 (Supporting: 1  
Corinthians 13:4-8)

**BOTTOM LINE**

Friends love one another.

### WEEK THREE

**BIBLE STORY**

Elijah and Elisha  
1 Kings 19:14-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15

**BOTTOM LINE**

Friends encourage one another.

### WEEK FOUR

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus Forgives Peter  
John 21:1-19 (Supporting: John  
18:1-27)

**BOTTOM LINE**

Friends forgive one another.

**MEMORY VERSE**

**“A FRIEND LOVES AT ALL TIMES. THEY ARE THERE TO HELP WHEN TROUBLE COMES.” PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV**

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**FRIENDSHIP**

**USING YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS TO SHOW OTHERS YOU CARE**



## FOR LEADERS ONLY

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### WEEK 1

We kick off this series in **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** where Solomon wrote, "Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do." Solomon goes on to remind us that like a three-strand cord, we are stronger when we work together as friends.

Bottom Line: **Choose your friends carefully.** God designed relationships to help make life easier. As kids become more aware how their friends influence them, it's important for them to know how to choose good friends. We pray that kids will choose friends who encourage them and help them grow in their relationship with Jesus.

### WEEK 2

In week two, we return to **1 Samuel 20** for one of the most famous friendships in the entire Bible: David and Jonathan. These guys went through a lot together. From making a promise to help each other to escaping the dangers of Jonathan's own father, King Saul, they showed us exactly what it meant for friends to love each other.

Bottom Line: **Friends love one another.** Just like David and Jonathan, friends can show how they love each other by the way they care for one another and go above and beyond to help each other succeed. It's this sort of love we experience through Jesus. We pray that kids will follow Him and learn how they can help their friends know how much they're loved.

### WEEK 3

In week three, we head to **1 Kings 19:14-21** and **2 Kings 2:1-15** and take a look at a different sort of friendship between Elijah and Elisha. God knew Elijah needed help and directed him to Elisha. Elisha came alongside Elijah and stayed with him to the very end.

Elisha knew the importance of encouragement.

Bottom Line: **Friends encourage one another.** Our kids are growing up in a world that can feel like everyone is out for themselves. God has a different way for us to live. God wants us to take time out to encourage others. Kids will find out how they can be friends who use their words and actions to build others up.

### WEEK 4

We finish up the month in **John 21:1-19** with an incredible moment between Jesus and Peter. After denying Jesus three times, Peter was feeling guilty and ashamed. But Jesus still had plans for Peter. Jesus forgave Peter and restored the broken friendship. And when we put our faith in Jesus, Jesus offers that same forgiveness to us. In turn, we can offer forgiveness to others.

Bottom Line: **Friends forgive one another.** As kids learn about God's incredible forgiveness through Jesus, we pray they start to understand more about how they can forgive their own friends. It's not just accepting an apology and saying it's alright. We pray that kids will understand how they can forgive others and work to rebuild the friendships that are worth saving.



**ELEMENTARY**

SEPTEMBER 2020

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