

BIBLE STUDY

STAYCATION
BIBLE SCHOOL

first lutheran church

T U E S D A Y

Theme of the day: **Loving our Neighbors**

Question of the day: **How can you show respect to everyone?**

Verse of the day: **Mark 12:31**

Key Story: **James 2:1-13**

Key take away: **While yesterday we learned loving God is the most important thing we can do, loving our neighbors is just as important. Here, we'll learn why we do that and how it can look.**

SO & SO SHOW

<https://youtu.be/lkg6Nq1pJas>

The Question of the day comes from this video: "How can we show respect to everyone?"

BIBLE STORY

James 2: 1-13

While you can definitely find and read this verse from your own Bible, I believe the easiest to understand 'version' is the illustration of the story found in the So & So Show video above.

STORY RECAP

I always find that having kids try to retell the story after hearing is a great way to help them remember it. Try asking them to summarize it with you!

STORY & VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is favoritism?
- Why do you think the rich person was given a better seat than the poor person?
- How would you have felt if you were the rich person in this story?
- How would you have felt if you were the poor person in this story?
- Were the people in church in this story showing respect to everyone?
- How can you show respect to everyone?

VERSE OF DAY & LESSON

READ MARK 12: 28-31

ASK Why do you think we're called to love our neighbors?

SAY When we talked about these verses yesterday, we talked about how important it is to love God. God loves us in such an extraordinarily BIG way, right? God created each of us and wants each of us to love him back. Part of loving God is loving the things God created, too.

ASK What are some of the things God created?

SAY God created the earth, the animals, the trees, the lake, people, EVERYTHING. And one of the most important parts of God's creation that we're supposed love is our neighbors.

ASK Who are our neighbors?

ASK How do we love someone 'ask ourselves'?

SAY

Our neighbors are all people. Not just those who actually live next door. It's anyone we see walking down the street, or shopping in the store, or at school, or people we see online. **EVERYONE** is our neighbor.

ASK

Why do you think it was so important for Jesus to remind us to love our neighbors?

SAY

It can be hard to remember to love everyone like we're supposed to. Sometimes we disagree with others, or fight... or maybe someone does something to you and you're not sure how to forgive them. There is a lot that can keep us from loving our neighbors. But God encourages us to keep trying. If we mess up, we can apologize to God and to the people we messed up with and try again!

ASK

Have you ever had a hard time loving someone?

SAY

No matter what happens, we know that God loves us and that we're supposed to love one another. And when it gets hard to do that, God gives us the strength to keep going. God is always with us, and always loves us.

ASK

What does loving your neighbors look like?

ALLOW TIME FOR ANSWERS, HELP BRAINSTORM IDEAS. END THE LESSON IN A PRAYER, THANKING GOD FOR LOVING US ALL SO MUCH AND ASKING FOR HELP TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER EVERY DAY.

ACTIVITY

Loving My Neighbors

- In this activity, you're going to be brainstorming different ways to actively love your neighbors. Write down the different ideas you come up with.

Some examples of what you could write: sending letters, praying for someone, baking cookies for someone, calling someone far away, wearing a mask in public, sharing positive things online, donating to the backpack program, etc.

- The next part of the activity will depend on what you have available. You'll want to collect either slips of paper, or popsicle sticks – one for each idea you have listed. Write down an idea on your slips or paper or popsicle sticks, and then place those in a cup or jar


- Then once a week, your family can come together and draw one idea from the cup/jar, and work that week to do that for someone.

This is a good way to contextualize loving our neighbors in a tangible way for kids, and also a helpful reminder to all of us that loving our neighbors is something we can do every week!


*The next couple pages are coloring or activity pages that you can print off if you're looking for more activities to do!



Name _____

Because 
God's love for us



is so sweet! 



Who is my neighbor?

