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Lesson Overview

We're continuing in our series called, "Foundations for kids". If we want a strong relationship with God, then we need to understand 3 important truths. Today, we're going to talk about the third truth which is: we grow by helping others. Did you know that Jesus wants your help? He does! Jesus is so smart that he accomplishes two things at once. He designed us to grow in our love for him when we help someone else. And, when we help someone, we're pointing them to Jesus. See how that works? When we help others, they get a glimpse of God through us and we grow in our faith! Here are the three main ways you can help others: 1. Serving at home and at school. 2. Giving money to your church. 3. Share Jesus with your friends. So, if you want to grow in your faith in God, look for ways to help someone else.

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: How do you feel when people do things for you? How can you serve people in your life?** (Tip: It feels good when people do things for us. For example, when your Mom cooks you dinner or when your sibling does one of your chores. We should look for ways to serve others, too.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **By serving and sharing Jesus with them.** (God's love is the best kind of love anyone can ever experience. And, we can show the love of God to others by serving them. We can help a friend with homework or encourage them when they're sad. And, the best thing we can do is to share what Jesus has done for them: He died on the cross to pay for their sins, and when they put their trust in him, they can live in heaven with him someday.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What can we do to help others? Why should we tell our friends about Jesus? **4-5th:** What are some things you can do at school to show the love of Jesus to others?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Romans 12:9-11. What does it look like to really love someone? How can you honor people in your life?** (Answer: To really love someone, you need to do things that help them and make them feel special. Things like; writing a nice note to tell them how special they are or doing chores to help your parents. This is also how you honor people. You show your appreciation by looking for ways to serve them.
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Big Idea

We grow by helping others

Key Question

How can we help our friends?

Memory Verse

Matthew 28:19 "Go and make disciples of all the nations."

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: SERVE OTHERS PAPER CHAIN CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid 4 strips of construction paper.
- Give each kid a Serve Others template (page 5)
- Have kids glue each phrase onto one of their paper strips.
- Then have kids tape the ends of one paper strip together to make a circle. Make sure the phrase is on the outside of the circle so it's easier to read.
- Then, have kids take another strip and put it through the circle and tape those ends together. This will form a chain. Have kids do that for the other two strips.

- As they work, remind the kids to look for ways to serve others.

Supplies needed: 6 in. wide strips of construction paper (4 per kid), Serve Others template (pg. 5, precut, 1 set per kid), Glue, Tape

Bonus Activity: "Telephone"

Have kids sit in a circle. Whisper the **Big Idea** in the ear of one kid. Have them whisper it to the kid on their right. Continue around the circle. Last kid has to say the message they heard.

OPTION 2: HELPING OTHERS CANDY UNWRAP GAME

Instructions:

- Before class, prepare the bags for the game
 - Place 4 tootsie rolls in each bag
 - Wrap each bag with a rubber band
- Divide the class into pairs and give each pair a bag.
- When you say "Go!", have kids try to get to the candy **but each kid can only use one hand**. They'll have to work together to get the task done!
- Kids can each have 2 pieces of candy to enjoy at the end of the game.

Supplies needed:

Baggies, Tootsie Roll candies (4 per bag), Rubber bands (1 per bag)

Bonus Activity: "Memory verse game"

Say the memory verse as a class. Say it again while **clapping**. Say it again while **hopping** up and down.

Instructions: Color the picture.

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DO CHORES FOR YOUR PARENTS

HELP YOUR SIBLING

WRITE A NOTE TO A FRIEND

INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH

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