



Kid's Ministry

Activity

Packs

Senior Primary



I promise you this. If you don't change and become like a child, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. But if you are as humble as this child, you are the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

- Matthew 18:3-4

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the children are looking at God's love and care for us and our response of showing this love to others. In these difficult times we will also be looking at how children can be empowered to show Christ's love to those around them while not physically being able to meet with them.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for all your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

I would love to have some photos of the beautiful artworks your children will create in order to put them in our weekly bulletin to encourage the rest of our church community with what our precious children are doing.

Blessings,
Jess

Topic: Showing God's love and care
Session Aim: Children will know that they are loved and cared for by God and be empowered to share Christ's love with others.
Bible Passage: 1 John 4:7-21

A Time of Prayer

Come together in a time of prayer with your children. Everyone can share something they would like to pray for or share a God Story. These are stories of where we have been able to see God at work in our lives or each other's lives during this week.

We give thanks to you Lord, for you are good,
With wisdom you made the sky and the bright lights in it,
You rescued Israel from Egypt,
You Lord led your people through the desert.
We praise you God in heaven!
That your love never fails.
Amen

Worship Songs

Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service.

The Presence of God's Love

1: This game helps your child understand that God's love is with us always even when we can't see it.

Cover one child's eyes so they cannot see. Have them stand in the middle of the room with their hands by their sides. The other members of the family start at the edge of the room and slowly and quietly work their way toward the middle to stand next to the child. Explain that they need to shout "you're here" when they think you or another one of your children are standing right next to them.

You and other children try to move as close to the blindfolded child as possible without them noticing that you are there. Everyone stands close to the blindfolded child until they feel your presence next to them.

You can swap who is blindfolded including parents having a turn.

2: Explain that even though sometimes we might feel like God isn't close (maybe when we are sad, angry, or scared), His love for us is so strong that he is always right with us. Explain that in the games there were times another person was right next to them and they couldn't "feel" their presence. This is like God – His love is always there no matter what.

3: Read Isaiah 41:10 with your children, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

What is the Greatest Example of Love

1: Ask each of your children what is the best way to show someone that you love them?

Then ask them what they think the Bible would say?

2: Have your children find 1 John 4 in their Bibles. Encourage them to use the contents page to help them learn their way around their Bibles.

Either you or one of your children pray for God's Spirit to be at work in our hearts revealing His meaning.

You or your children read 1 John 4:7-21.

3: As children get older it's important to encourage them to read their Bible trying to discern what God is saying. Once you have read the passage work through the following questions to encourage children to look more closely at the passage:

- What's one thing that stood out to them?

- Why did it stand out to them?
- Are there any repeated words or phrases?
 - If Yes, why do they think that is important?
- Is there anywhere else in the Bible where we read similar things?
- Encourage them to write a one sentence summary of what this passage is saying

Whenever you open the Bible with your children asking questions such as these will help them get into the practise of reading the passage deeply. Gradually it will be good to add more questions to this list such as: where does this fit in the Bible as a whole, what comes just before and after, does it refer to other parts of the Bible, where is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in this passage? Learning these skills is a lifelong journey of reading the Bible and allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to us. As your children start this process they may not be able to answer questions, or they may be very simple that's a good place to start and please keep encouraging them and to be praying for God's assistance in this.

One way to help your children with this exercise is to have the Bible passage in a word document or print it off so they can highlight and add comments to the passage. An easy place to find scripture online is <https://www.biblegateway.com>

4: This passage tells us that the greatest example of love is what God did by sending Jesus to die for our sins.

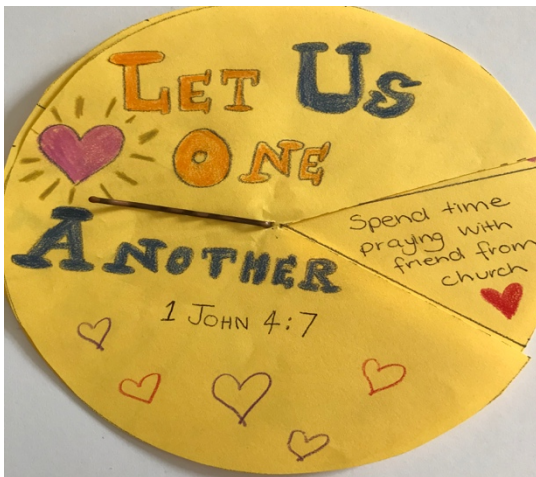
Read Verses 9-10 again.

5: In a few weeks we are going to celebrate Easter. We are going to celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead (covered in last Sunday's family worship time) and also remember the great love that God showed us.

Love in Action

1: The Bible passage you all just read also tells us that we need to love one another, that anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sisters in Christ.

During this time, we need to show a lot of God's love to each other. You are going to make a craft which will help your children everyday find a way to be showing God's love to someone else. Everyday your children can spin their wheel to the next spot to find a new way to show God's love:



- Supplies:
- Paper
 - Colouring pencils
 - Scissors
 - Hair pin

2: With your children brainstorm some ways that you can show Christ's love to others because he loved us. Encourage them to be creative with the ways to do this as it is becoming more difficult to leave our homes and meet others.

Here are some examples:

- Calling grandparents or an elderly friend from church. This demographic could be feeling isolated without being able to go to church and may be limited by the technology they can use to connect. A phone call from a child in their lives is a great way to show God's love.
- Calling and praying with a friend from Sunday Club. Many of our kids are going to miss seeing each other and living out their faiths together. They could also email or video call one another to show the different crafts that they have made to encourage one another.
- Picking a Bible verse they love, writing it out and decorating it to have around your house as a daily reminder to you all of God's presence.
- Helping mum and dad around the house
- Telling mum, dad, or siblings how much they love them.

3: Either print out the templates (found at the end of this document) or make your own by tracing two circles and filling them in.

The first circle is to decorate the Bible verse and to cut out the wedge. Fill the second circle with your ideas of how we can show Christ's love to others this week.



4: Place a small hole in the middle of each circle.

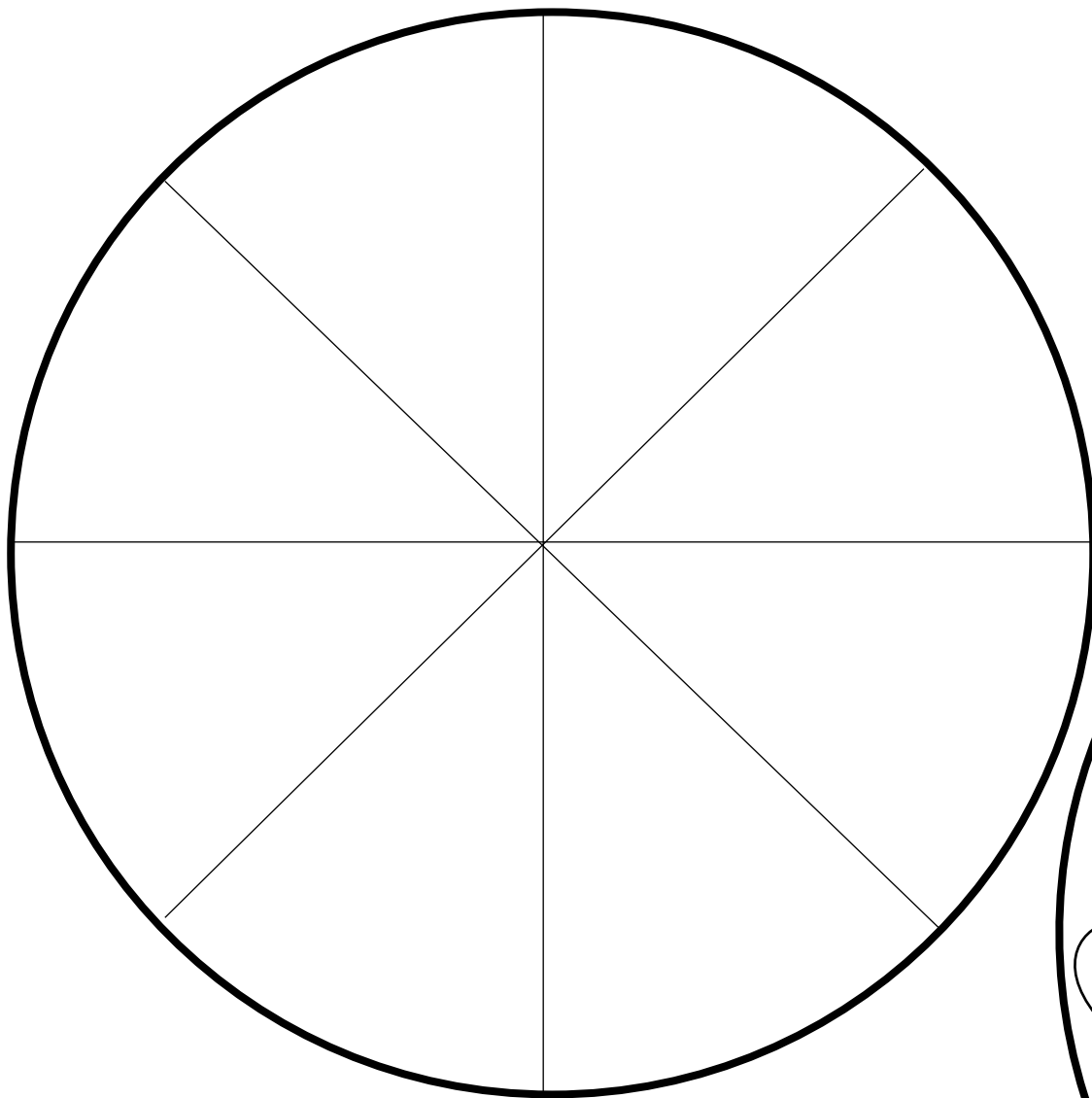
Place the circle with the ways to show love behind the Bible verse circle.

Place a hair pin through the two holes to hold the two circles together. They should now be able to turn the circles revealing different ways of showing God's love.

Each day encourage your child to turn to the next way to show God's love to someone.

Prayer for our World

1: To finish your time together, ask your children what they would like to be talking to God about at the moment or what they are feeling and spend time praying for these.



Let Us

Love One

Another

1 John 4:7