

Younger Children • Age 7-9 • Learner Guide

The learning activities suggested in this book are used as a part of the teaching plan provided in the *Younger Children Teacher Guide*. It is strongly recommended that each church provides a copy of the *Younger Children Learner Guide* for each younger child and younger children teacher.

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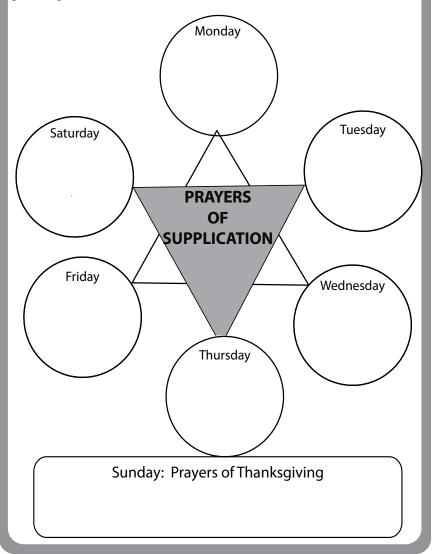
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I Will Pray Everyday

Praying is talking to God whether it is thanking Him, asking Him for help or simply talking to Him about anything you want. During the next four months, each day of the week, write something that you prayed to God about. On Sundays, do not ask God for anything. Instead, spend time thanking God and praising Him.



Happy Home Activities









During the month of May, plan to do the following activities to help to make your home a happier place. Plan to share the difference that doing the Happy Home Activities has made.

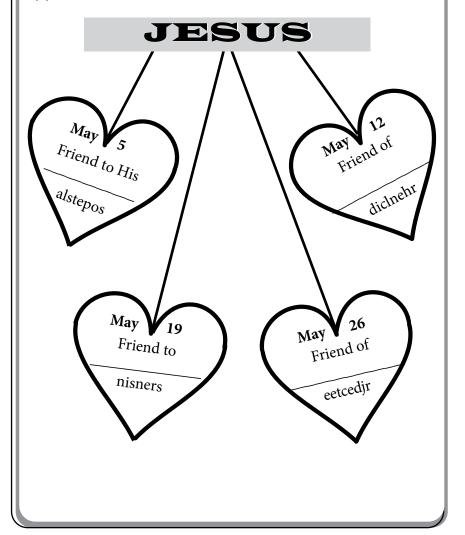
- Take care of something which you borrowed from a family member.
- •Clean your room without being asked.
- •Read to a family member.
- •Write a thank-you note to your parents or guardian for all the work they do.
- •Pray with a member of your family.
- Apologise for something that you did wrong and ask the family member to forgive you.
- •Notice something that needs to be done in your home and do it without being asked.
- •Compliment your brother or sister on something he or she does well.
- •Share with someone in your family something you enjoy doing.

May Unit Activity Jesus, Friend of All



Writer: Diana Anthony, Belize

- (1) Is Jesus your friend? Are you a friend of Jesus?
- (2) In each heart, unscramble the letters below the blank lines to discover persons to whom Jesus is a friend.
- (3) Write the unscrambled words on the blank lines.



Unit Title: Jesus, Friend of All

Lesson Title: Jesus, Friend to His Apostles

May 5, 2024

MAIN TRUTH

Jesus carefully chose His friends; He expected them to love one another as much as He loved them.

MAIN TEXT

Luke 6:12-16; John 15:9-17

MEMORY VERSE

"No longer do I call you servants, ...I have called you friends.

John 15:15 NKJV

I am Jesus. I went on a mountain to pray. All night I prayed. I prayed because it was time for me to choose My twelve helpers. They would help Me tell people about My Father and His great love for everyone.

The following morning, I called my followers together. I chose twelve of them to be my helpers. I called them "disciples". The names of the disciples I chose were: Simon, also called Peter, Andrew, James, Andrew's brother, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot.

I knew that Judas Iscariot would betray Me; but I still chose him. He would sell Me for thirty pieces of silver. I wanted the disciples to understand the great love I have for them so I compared My love for them with the love I have for My heavenly Father. I said to them: "Just as My father loves me, I love you. When you obey Me you are in My love. I obey My father and live in His love. I am telling you this so that you will be joyful.

Love one another as I have loved you. This is My commandment."

"The greatest expression of love is when a person gives his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I tell you. I am not calling you servants because you are my friends. You did not choose Me. I chose you. Obey God's word. Love one another."

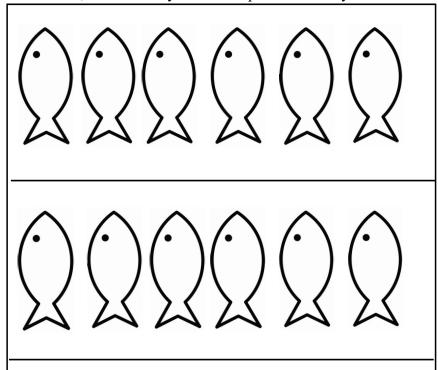


QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How can I follow Jesus' example of being a true friend?



Write one word of the **Memory Verse**, **John 15:15 NKJV**, on each fish. On the lines, write as many of the disciples' names as you remember.



CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRUE FRIEND

1) What are some characteristics of a true friend? 2) Write the following words under the correct heading: helping, bullying, forgiving, sharing, caring, fighting, lying, cheating. 3)List four more actions under each column. 4) Promise God that you will try to do only the actions of a true friend.

A TRUE FRIEND	NOT A TRUE FRIEND						

Do You Know the Story Facts?

- 1. Where did Jesus spend all night praying?
- 2. Why did Jesus pray all night?
- **3.** Name four of the persons whom Jesus chose to be His helpers?
- **4.** Why did Jesus need helpers?
- **5.** What did Jesus say is the greatest expression of love?

Unit Title: Jesus, Friend of All

Lesson Title: Jesus, Friend of Children

May 12, 2024

Jesus wants to be a personal friend to every child.

MAIN TEXT Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them." **Mark 10:14b NIV**

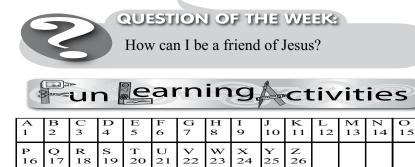
One day, some parents brought their children to Jesus. The parents wanted Jesus to put His hands on their children and bless them. The parents wanted Jesus to say a special prayer for their children. The disciples were annoyed at the parents. They probably thought the parents were bothering Jesus, especially when He was so busy. Perhaps, they also thought Jesus did not have time for children. The disciples might have been thinking that children were not important. The disciples scolded the parents and told them that they should not bother Jesus.

The disciples were wrong. Jesus loves children. He did not want the disciples to send them away. When Jesus heard what the disciples said to the parents, He was not pleased. He scolded the disciples. Jesus said:

> "Let the little children come to me. Do not stop them. The kingdom of God belongs to those who believe in me like a little child does."

"Anyone who does not come to me like a little child will not enter the kingdom of heaven."

To show how much He loved the children, Jesus took them in His arms and blessed them. He prayed for them just as the parents had asked Him to do. The children were happy. The parents were happy. Jesus had taken their little ones in His arms and blessed them. He had time for them. They probably thought, "How great is His love for children. He is truly a friend of children."



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In the box below, write the correct letter above each number to discover the Memory Verse. In each line, a letter has been done for you. To find the letter that matches each number, use the code above.

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12	5	20		20	8	5		12	9	20	20	12	5		
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14	15	20		8	9	14	4	5	18		20	8	5	13	
					·					·					
			Matthew			1	10:14b			NIV					

FIND AND CIRCLE

In the
box of letters
below, find and circle
the following words from
today's story: children, Jesus, disciples,
scold, friend, kingdom, bless, hand.

XFRIENDURCPY
GXCHILDRENFX
OWDAQMVKIJOP
BLSNYUFCEEUY
LHADLOCSKSSD
EZKINGDOMUMN
SDISCIPLESVA
SRYOWPKLZDIH

Do You Know the Story Facts?

- 1. Who brought children to Jesus?
- 2. Why did they bring their children to Jesus?
- **3.** How did the disciples treat the parents and their children?
- **4.** What was Jesus' response to the disciples?
- **5.** What did Jesus do for the parents and their children?

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