

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** The goal of this series is to teach kids how to live out their faith in the day-to-day, talking with God in the everyday moments without it feeling like faith is something to check off a to-do list.

Each week will follow a theme, and have a list of suggestions that can be slotted into your daily routine. Please don't feel pressured to do everything! Pick a couple of things you think your kids will enjoy. This isn't meant to be a sit down lesson, but easy-to-put-together activities that can be done whenever you have a chance. A lot of the content is play based, using games as a tool to get kids thinking about God and creating intentional conversations.

## WEEK TWO: God is... a friend

**Aim:** For kids to understand God loves them and wants a friendship with them. We'll dig into some of the qualities of a friendship, encouraging kids to love and be a friend to others too.

### Memory Verse

1 John 4:19 NIV "We love because he first loved us."

#### Suggestions:

- Write out the verse, recite the verse, cover the first word, recite the verse again, cover the second word – repeat until you go through the whole verse with all the words covered.
- Post the verse by your sink & read it as you brush your teeth.
- Tape each of the words from the verse onto blocks; create a tower with the words in order.

### Things to do...OUTSIDE

#### Suggestions:

- Friends build each other up. Walk around your neighbourhood and look at all the decorations in the windows and how people are encouraging others in this season.
- Decorate your windows with hearts to encourage others in this season.
- Use chalk to decorate the street in front of your house with encouragements for passersby.

### Things to do...INSIDE

Things that are important in our friendships with others can help us understand what's important in our friendship with God.

#### Suggestions:

- Write cards for friends. What are you thankful for in your friendship? What do you value in your friendship? Send them in the mail, or snap a photo and email it. Turn this into a journaling activity and write to God.
- Trust is an important part of friendship! Do a trust exercises, such as a blindfolded taste test. Talk about why trust is important in friendship, or times you've trusted God and He's cared for you.
- Video chat with a friend. It's important to stay connected. You could play charades or 'would you rather' with your friends.
- Make paper dolls (there are tutorials online). God is with us and loves us.
- Make friendship bracelets for your friends (tutorials online). Mail them or drop them off at a friend's house.
- Make a friendship bracelet for yourself as a reminder God is a friend and He is with you.

### Things to watch...

#### Suggestions:

- Right Now Media has some great resources. If you don't have an account, please email the church and we'll set you up with a free login.
- 1. Superbook, Season 3, episode 13, The Good Samaritan

### Things to read...

#### Suggestions:

- The story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Who showed true kindness to the injured man? What can we learn about friendship and caring for one another from this story? How does this story teach us more about God's character?

### Things to talk about...

#### Suggestions:

- Ask your kids about their friends, what do they enjoy about them, what do they miss? Ask them the same about God. Share about your friendship with God and what that means to you.
- What makes a good friend? Turn it into a memory game. List a quality of a good friend, the next person lists the quality you just said and adds another to the list. Continue and see how many you can remember.