

Love one another.

### THE LOOK OF LOVE | WEEK 1 OF 5

# Love

### **GOD STORY**

Jesus: The True Vine Galatians 5:22–23; John 15:1–13

### **KEY VERSES**

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22–23 (NLT)

### **LEADER TIPS**

Read this lesson plan and note which activities require preparation before the kids arrive. Remember to pray for your group!

# **My Story**

### 1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

Chat about who loves the kids and what makes them feel really loved. Introduce today's Big Idea.

### 2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Hold a Rock Paper Scissors tournament in which the players are cheered on and shown love by the rest of the kids.

# **God Story | Life Story**

### 3 | **WEEKLY VIDEO** (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verses, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

# **My Story**

### 4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes\*)

Create a craft that prompts the kids to show Jesus' love to others this week.

### **5** | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Review Galatians 5:22-23, then create actions for the fruit of the Spirit.

## **Our Story**

### 6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

\*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.

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### **My Story**

### 1 | Conversation Starter

### **SUPPLIES**

None

#### **LEADER TIP**

 This is meant to be a casual conversation. Move on quickly to the Intro Activity so you have enough time for it before the teaching video.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. As the kids arrive, welcome them and gather everyone together.
- b. Ask:
  - Who do you know really loves you?
  - What makes you feel really loved?
- c. Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- d. Introduce today's Big Idea: Love one another.

### 2 | Intro Activity

#### **SUPPLIES**

None

#### **LEADER TIP**

 If needed, model cheering in a way that makes the kids feel loved.

- a. Guide everyone to find a partner.
- b. Review the rules of Rock Paper Scissors: scissors beat paper; rock beats scissors; and paper beats rock.
- c. Direct the partners to play and declare a winner.
- d. Instruct the winners to pair up and play one another. Prompt the kids who lost to cheer on their partners.
- e. Continue with the winners of each round playing one another and the losers cheering them on. Eventually, the last two winners will play as everyone else cheers.
- f. If time allows, play another round.
- g. To wrap up, ask the winners: How did it feel when everyone was cheering for you? Did you feel loved? Why or why not?



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# **God Story | Life Story**

### 3 | Weekly Video

### **SUPPLIES**

• Video file

### **LEADER TIP**

 Ask if anyone already knows the Key Verses for this series. Some kids might be familiar with them!

- a. Play the video. It includes:
  - Host segment
  - God Story (Jesus: The True Vine; Galatians 5:22–23; John 15:1–13)
  - Key Verses segment
  - Life Story (Youth share about how they love, serve, and grow in community together.)
- b. Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
  - What was the God Story about in today's video?
  - What does it mean that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches?
  - What was the Life Story about?
  - How did the students in the Life Story experience God's love?
  - Does anyone already know the new Key Verses? (Galatians 5:22–23)

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### **My Story**

### 4 | Small Group Activity

#### **SUPPLIES**

- Bibles
- Big Idea activity pages
- Heart cutouts
- Markers
- Pens
- Masking tape

### **LEADER TIPS**

- Show the kids how to look up the passage in the Bible. It may take some time, but it's a life skill that's helpful for them to learn.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their crafts.

- a. Gather your small group together.
- b. Make sure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- c. Guide the kids to look up John 15:12.
- d. Read the verse together.
- e. Discuss:
  - How are we supposed to love one another?
  - How did Jesus show love while he was on earth?
- f. Give each person an activity page and six heart cutouts.
- g. Place the other supplies where everyone can share them.
- h. Encourage the kids to write someone's name on each heart cutout along with a way they can show love to that person this week. Encourage them to be thoughtful and really consider the other person instead of just writing something simple.
- Direct them to tape the completed hearts onto the activity page.

- j. Explain that they can pull off a heart each day this week and use that idea to spread Jesus' love.
- k. When most of the kids are finished, invite them to share their ideas with the rest of the group.
- I. To wrap up, pray that they would **love one another** and share Jesus' love with others!

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### **My Story**

### 5 | Wrap-Up Activity

#### **SUPPLIES**

- Key Verses sign
- Wall-safe tape

### **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

 Place the Key Verses sign where everyone can see it easily.

### **LEADER TIPS**

- Be prepared to suggest actions, such as making a heart with your hands for "love" or pointing to your smile for "joy".
- Older kids could divide into groups of two to three people. Encourage them to think of a way they could teach this verse to younger kids. Then invite each group to present their idea.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Gather everyone back together.
- b. Read aloud the Key Verses sign.
- c. Challenge the group to create actions for each of the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22–23:
  - Love
  - Joy
  - Peace
  - Patience
  - Kindness
  - Goodness
  - Faithfulness
  - Gentleness
  - Self-control
- d. Each time you add a new word and action, repeat the previous ones.
- e. When you have actions for all the fruit, say the verses and do the actions together!

### **Our Story**

### 6 | Dismissal

#### **SUPPLIES**

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards
- Key Verses colouring pages

### **LEADER TIP**

 Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- b. Give everyone a weekly take-home card as well as the monthly Key Verses card and colouring page.
- c. Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- d. Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.