You are blessed!

Theme; True happiness is found in Jesus.

Scripture; Luke 6:17-26 You are blessed when; you've lost it all! God's kingdom is right there for the finding. You are blessed when you are ravenously hungry!!! Then you are ready for the heavenly meal. You are blessed when tear flow freely. For joy comes in the morning!!!

Object; Bubbles for blowing; few dollars in cash; bag of chips; video game controller



I am sure that everyone has experienced the joy of blowing bubbles. (Blow bubbles at the kids.) Isn't it funny how something so simple can make so many people happy? It isn't just for kids either! I have even seen teenagers and adults laughing and having fun blowing bubbles and trying to catch them.

There is just one problem with the happiness that comes from blowing bubbles -- it doesn't last! The minute you reach out and touch one of the bubbles, it will burst. (Blow bubbles and have kids try to touch them.) Many times we chase the bubble, but it is always just out of reach and as soon as it touches the ground, the bubble is gone.

Isn't this true for so many people today? A lot of people are chasing after happiness, but like the bubbles, happiness is always just out of reach. Or, just when we think we have it, our bubble may burst. What are some of the things that people believe will make them happy but may disappoint you instead? (Pause for responses.)

Money: (Hold up money.) Many people think that money will bring them happiness, but it doesn't. Once you spend it, it is gone, and you still don't have happiness.

Food: (Hold up the food.) Some people seek happiness in food. They eat because they are sad or depressed and they think that food will make them feel better. It doesn't. After they eat, they are still unhappy.

Entertainment: (Hold up video game controller.) Many people think that doing fun things is the same thing as being happy, but it isn't. Oftentimes, people who are laughing on the outside are crying on the inside.

Popularity: Some people think that being popular with other people will bring them happiness. They will do anything or say anything to make other people like them, but popularity doesn't last. It is here today and gone tomorrow. There is no lasting happiness in popularity.

Jesus knew that people often look for happiness in the wrong places. He even said we might be happier if we were poor, hungry, crying, and disliked by others. Why would Jesus suggest such a thing?

When we are poor, we can trust in God to supply everything we need instead of depending on our own wealth.

When we are hungry to learn about God and His love for us, we realize that only He can satisfy our hunger for happiness.

When we are crying, we can trust in God to comfort us and ease our pain.

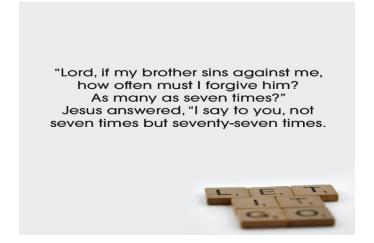
When we think we have no friends, we have a friend in Jesus. Jesus is the friend who will never leave us.

We all want to be happy, don't we? Don't spend your time chasing bubbles. Look to your Heavenly Father. He is the source of true happiness.

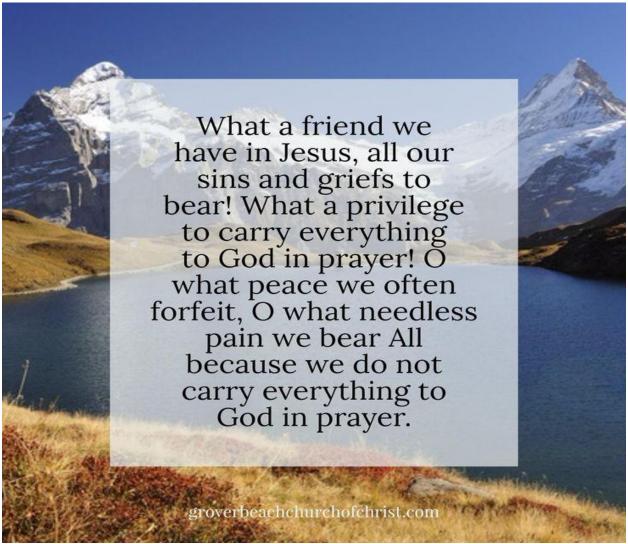
Dear Father, help us to remember that we can never find happiness by seeking the things this world has to offer. True happiness can only be ours by following Jesus. Amen.

Count yourself lucky if someone teases you and tries to make you cry and every time someone tells lies about you to your friends. This means that, for some reason, they are not happy. So, they don't like anyone else to be happy. That is why they try to make others sad. Jesus tells us to forgive everyone who treats you wrong.

You can be glad when this happens because you know that you are best friends with Jesus and He loves you just the way you are! Peter asked Jesus this question.....



Let's Sing!!! We have a friend in Jesus.



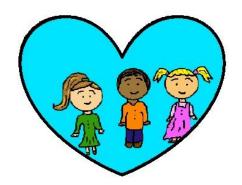
Jesus loves me. This I know. For the bible tells me so. Little one to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.

> Yes! Jesus loves me! Yes! Jesus loves me! Y es! Jesus loves me! The bible tells me so.

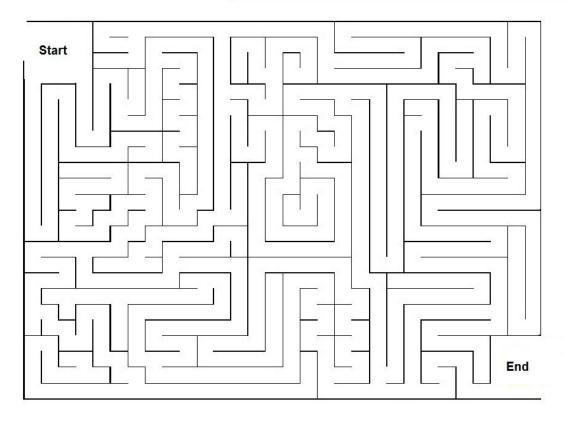
Gentle Jesus, Stay with me. Close beside me all the way. When at last I come to die. Take me home with you on high.



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Jesus Loves The Little Children Maze



Mark 10:13 And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

Mark 10:14 But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

Mark 10:15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

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Let's Do a Craft!!



Your Hug to a friend!!! Cut construction paper 4 inches by 20" long....This will be Fold the arms so that the hands are overlapping in the center. Add a message such as;

"God tells us to love one another. I love YOU!

"Love one another. Forgive one another. Be friends with one another."

"Jesus loves me and Jesus loves you too."



Cut out 5 hearts - each one smaller than the last heart. Glue them together this way or as seen on the video.

Copy the words on each heart and decorate with sparkles!!!

Change the word <u>ME</u> to your <u>friend's name</u>, and change the <u>I</u> to <u>you</u>.

- 1. Jesus loves you!!!
- 2. When you are happy. When you are sad.
- 3. When you are good 😊
- 4. When you are sad \approx .
- 5. Jesus loves me NO Matter What!!!

Now I lay me down to sleep.

I pray to you Lord, this child to keep
Safe in Your love all through the night.
And wake me in the morning light. Amen