

## **STORY POINT**

Children of God love one another with their actions.

## **BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER**

What will happen for all Christians in the future?

One day all Christians will see Jesus in His glory and live with Him forever.

## **DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY**

Discovers identity in Jesus.

## **FAMILY MEMORY VERSE**

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 1:6

## **BIBLE STORY**

**\*\*Read the Bible Story during “Time to Worship” on page 3!**

### **Children of God**

#### **1 John 2-3**

Jesus’s disciple John wrote a letter to Christians. “Little children,” he wrote—because all Christians are children of God— “I am writing to you so you will not sin. But if you do sin, Jesus speaks to the Father for us. Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins.”

John said that when we are part of God’s family and truly know God, we keep God’s commands. Being a child of God is like living in light instead of in darkness. John wrote, “If someone says he is in the light but hates his brother or sister, he is in the darkness. If someone loves his brother or sister, he is in the light.”

John also wrote, “See how much the Father loves us! He calls us His own children— and that is what we are! We are children of God.” John said that people who are God’s children live differently than people who are not God’s children. Disciples of Jesus do what is right, and they love one another. This was not a new message. Jesus told us to love one another too. John wrote that others will know we are Christians because we show love to one another.

We know what love is because Jesus showed us. He laid down His life for us. Because of Jesus’ power, we can—and should—love like that too. When we have something that our brother needs, we should give it to him. If someone has enough to help but turns away and does nothing, does that person really know God’s love?

John said that we must not just talk about loving others. We must love them by our actions and by telling them the truth.

“Little children,” he said, “let us not just say that we love others. Let’s show our love by what we do.”

*Christ Connection: John wrote a letter to teach disciples of Jesus in the church—the children of God—about the importance of showing love. Love is more than feelings or words; it is an action. Jesus showed God’s love for us when He died on the cross to rescue people from sin.*

## GAME TIME

### Say and Show

Write the names of animals on sticky notes or index cards. Consider including cow, kangaroo, alligator, flamingo, sloth, monkey, cat, dog, and so on. Invite your kids to play a game of charades. Choose a volunteer to take a card.

Explain that in the first round, the volunteer may only say one word that describes the animal on the card (ex. Curious, pink, long). Try to guess the animal as a family. If you guess incorrectly, prompt the volunteer to act out the animal's movement. Play additional rounds as time allows.

**SAY** • It was easier to guess the animal when you could see its movement rather than just hearing a one-word description. Today we will hear a Bible story about something Christians should show instead of just talking about.

## FAMILY MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

### Piece the Verse Together

Write each word of the Family Memory Verse on separate sheets of paper and mix them up so the words are out of order. Work together with your kids to put the words in the right order to form the Family Memory Verse!

## TIME TO WORSHIP

Go to the [Eleven22 Kids YouTube playlist](#) by clicking [HERE](#) to worship!

### WORSHIP

Worship Song 1: *Real Love*  
Worship Song 2: *This Little Light*

### BIBLE STORY

\*Found on Page 2!

### WORSHIP

Response Song: *I Will Follow*

## FAMILY DISCUSSION

Discuss the following:

**Grab Your Bible:** Help your kids find 1 John 3 in their Bibles. Ask your kids if they know how many books in the Bible John wrote (5- the Gospel of John; 1,2,3 John; and Revelation). Challenge your kids to count how many times the word **love** is used in 1 John 3.

**Discipleship Journey Connection:** Referencing the Discipleship Journey triangle (found by clicking [HERE](#)), discuss the following: **As we see in the Bible this week, we see that love is not a feeling that is temporary or earned. Love is something that overflows from us when we understand God's love for us. As we discover our identity in Jesus, we will be able to love others because Jesus first loved.**

**Talking About Worship:** Read Romans 12:1-2 aloud to your kids. Explain to the kids that worship is not just something we do at church. Worship is something we do daily by responding to who God is! We live a life of worship by seeking to honor God in everything we do.

**Review Questions:** Ask your kids the following questions and allow time for kids to respond and discuss.

- **What do we become when we surrender to Jesus?** Children of God, 1 John 3:1-2.
- **What command did John give to children of God?** To love one another, 1 John 3:11.
- **What does it mean to love others well?** Guide your kids to look at Jesus as the perfect example of love. Jesus served His disciples, taught them, and laid down His life for sinners. We can love one another by serving one another and sharing the good news of Jesus with them.
- **How can we love one another well?** Help your kids understand that on our own, we do not have the power to love in Godly ways. Remind the kids that the Holy Spirit lives in disciples of Jesus to give us the power to love God and love one another.
- **When is it hard to show godly love to others?** Guide your kids to think through situations they have faced in which they didn't want to show love to someone. Help them understand that we must love even those who treat us badly. Be sure to remind kids that loving someone doesn't mean letting them hurt you. If any kids disclose abuse or neglect, report it to ministry leaders immediately.

**Prayer:** Spend time intentionally praying with your kids. Below are a few options you can use during prayer.

- Take some time to pray over the kids in your group. Thank God for adopting us into His family and making us His children. Pray that God would help them love one another as God has loved them.
- Give your kids a piece of paper to write down why they are thankful for God! They can also draw a picture!