

# Alley SG-February 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

**Bible Story:** All for Love (A Woman Pours Perfume on Jesus at Bethany) • *Mark 14:1-9*

**Key Question:** How can you show love to God?

**Bottom Line:** Love God with everything you've got.

**Memory Verse:** This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:10 NIV)

## 1. Get Your Head in the Game

**What You Need:** Coins (20 pennies per group)

**What You Do:**

- **Give** each of the kids a coin.
- **Demonstrate** how to bend one elbow and place an open hand near their ear so that their forearm is parallel to the floor and their elbow is sticking out in a forward direction.
- **Tell** kids to place their coin on top of their elbow and then *quickly* lower their arm and try to catch the coin with the hand of the same arm before the coin hits the floor.
- If they succeed in catching the coin, **let** them try again using two coins.

**What You Say:**

"Whether we have one small coin or a full bank, our money and everything we have comes from God. In Large Group today, we took a look at some ways we can love God with everything we have."

## 2. Take a Snapshot

**What You Need:** Paper (1 per student), pens

**What You Do:**

- **Give** each kid a piece of paper and a pen.
- **Ask** them to number down the paper from 1 – 10.
- **Explain** that you will ask one of the kids question number 1 from the list below.
  - That kid will write down an answer on their paper on line #1.
  - The rest of the group will write the answer **they think the first kid will give** on line #1
  - Anyone whose answers match gets a point.
  - Play until each kid has had at least one turn giving the lead answer.
    1. What might a person who loved God do with \$100?
    2. If you had 10 minutes to show God you loved Him, what would you do?
    3. What's one thing we can give God?
    4. What's the best way for someone to show love for God?
    5. What's the best way for someone to let others know they love God?
    6. What are the top 3 things that you love?
    7. What is something anyone can do to show God they love Him?
    8. If you wanted to worship God, what's the one thing you'd do?
    9. What's one reason God deserves our love?
    10. If love for God was a color, what would it be?

**What You Say:**

"Followers of Jesus learn that it's important to worship God every day—not just at church. Giving our time, stuff, and all the things we're able to do are ways we worship God. It shows that we love Him. We can never give more to God than He has already given us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to make a way for our sins to be forgiven. He took our punishment when He died in our place on the cross. Making God 'Number One' in our lives is not a way to pay Him back. That would be impossible. We give Him our lives and love as an act of worship which says, 'THANK YOU.'"

### 3. Bible Story Extension

**What You Need:** Bible, cardstock, markers

#### What You Do:

- **Set out** the markers and cardstock.
- **Ask** kids to share one thing they remember from today's Bible story.
- **Invite** them to design an album cover depicting the story of Jesus and the woman at Bethany.
- As kids work, **read** the story aloud from Mark 14:1-9.
- **Ask** kids to name their album and share their work with the group.
- **Guide** the group in conversation about the story and what they can learn from it about showing love to God with our whole lives.
  - The perfume the woman gave to Jesus was probably one of the most expensive things she owned. What do you think motivated her to use it the way she did?
  - What do you have that would be the modern-day equivalent of the costly perfume in today's story?
  - Do the things we give to God always have to be expensive? Explain.
  - What are some intangible things (stuff we can't see or touch) we can give to God?
  - What is the most unique and meaningful way you can come up with to show love to God this week?
- **Encourage** kids to take their album covers home if they'd like, as a reminder to give God all that He deserves from His followers: everything!

### 4. Discussion Questions

- Describe the kind of relationship you want to have with God.
- What's one thing you can do to help grow that relationship? What could keep your relationship from growing?
- Do you think it's possible to give God literally EVERYTHING? Why or why not?
- What is something you might have to sacrifice or give up in order to show love to God this week?
- Would you say that love for God comes out of what you DO or who you ARE? Explain.

### 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

**What You Need:** Bibles, Red "Prayer Point" Cards (from week 1)

#### What You Do:

- **Sit** in a circle.
- **Invite** the kids to choose a "Prayer Point" sheet, then read what is written on the front and pray silently.
- **Provide** as much time as needed for kids to pray.
- **Ask** kids to indicate they are finished praying by placing their sheets back in middle of the circle.
- **Lead** the group in a closing prayer or invite one of the kids to do so.

#### What You Say:

"Dear God, we have learned a lot this month about love. Now we ask that You help us live out the things we've heard. Thank You for loving us first and forever. You gave us Jesus who made the way for us to know and love You back. We need Your help to show Your love to others, especially those who are hard to love. We ask that You help us to love You—not just a little—but with everything we've got. In Jesus' name, amen."

**BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"**

**HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

***IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH!***