

February Week 4

It's a Party!

February 27

# CRAFT

## *Heart Necklace*

**SUPPLIES:** Yarn cut in 2' strings, heart cut outs with hole punched, 1" cut straws, clear tape, cups to put supplies in

**PREP BEFORE LARGE GROUP:** Place 5 hearts and 7 straw pieces in a cup. Prepare one cup per child. Tightly wrap one end of each piece of yarn with clear tape. This will make it much easier for children to push the yarn end through the straw.

### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Have children join you at the table. Pass out cups filled with necklace supplies.**
  - *"Friends, we have had the best month learning all about Jesus' love for us! Jesus loves us SO much and we can share his love with everyone we meet!"*
  - *"Today, we are going to make a special necklace that you can wear to remind you of how much Jesus loves you!"*
  
- ⇒ **Walk the children through each step of making the necklace.**
  - *"Everybody find the taped end of your yarn. Hold it up so I can see. Good!"*
  - *"Next we are going to thread the taped end through a straw. Watch how I push it through with my fingers."*
  - *"After that I can push a heart through. Let's add your straws and hearts in a pattern!"*
  - *"If you need any help, I can help you!"*
  
- ⇒ **When children are done, write their name on the center heart and tie off the necklace so they can wear it.**
  - *"These look amazing! I am going to write your name on this heart so you can remember that Jesus loves YOU! Now let me help tie it so you can wear it around your neck!"*
  
- ⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**
  - *"In our story, Jesus didn't care that the woman at the well wasn't from the same place as Him. He loved her and wanted to be her friend, no matter where she lived. No matter where you live, Jesus loves you."*

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# ACTIVITY #1

## *Love Like Jesus*

**SUPPLIES:** Place cards, Heart stress ball, cd player, EC Worship CD

### What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room and form a circle.**

- *"Friends, let's make a circle and have a seat! Today we are going to play a fun game like hot potato but with an extra special twist. Let me show you!"*
- *"I have a heart right here. We are going to pass this around the circle while the music is playing. When the music stops, whoever is holding the heart gets to pick one of my special cards."*

⇒ **Show children the cards.**

- *"Each of these cards has a place on it. When a card is picked we will look at the picture and name the place on the picture. Then we will all try to think of ways we can love like Jesus when we're there!"*
- *"Are you ready?"*

⇒ **Push play on the CD player and have children pass the heart around the circle. Pause the music and have the child who is holding the heart pick a card. Discuss how you can love like Jesus in that place.**

- *Examples:*
  - *Park – share the swing, help someone up who falls, make a new friend, invite someone to play*
  - *Beach – share your shovel, smile and wave, play in the sand with a friend*
  - *Drive through window – say thank you, share food with your family*
  - *Bounce house – let someone else go first, invite a friend to bounce*

⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *"That was so much fun! No matter where we are, we can love like Jesus! We can show everyone everywhere that Jesus loves them!"*
- **Who does Jesus love?**
- **Jesus loves everyone!"**

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## ACTIVITY #2

### *Heart Jump*

**SUPPLIES:** 3 Hula Hoops

**SET-UP:** Lay the hula hoops on the floor in jumping distance from each other for little legs

### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Have children join you next to the hula hoops**
  - *“Do you see these hula hoops? Today we are going to use our bodies to help us remember the answer to our important question.*
  - *When I say, “Who does Jesus love?” I want you to jump in each hula hoop and say “Jesus – loves – everyone!” (Demonstrate as you hop in one hula hoop for each word.”*
  
- ⇒ **Have the children line up and take a turn one at a time jumping into the hoops.**
  - *“Now I want each of you to take a turn. When I ask you, “Who does Jesus love?” you can take a turn jumping into each hula hoop. Are you ready?*
  - *“Who does Jesus love?” “Jesus loves everyone!”*
  
- ⇒ **Have each child take a turn.**
  
- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
  - *“Great job, friends! I am so thankful that Jesus loves us, aren't you?*
  - ***Who does Jesus love?***
  - ***Jesus loves everyone!”***

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## ACTIVITY #3

### *Heart Parachute Toss Up*

**SUPPLIES:** Parachute, heart stress balls, CD player, worship music

#### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Have children join you around the parachute.**
  - *“Friends, let’s have some fun together! This month we have been learning about how much Jesus loves us. And if Jesus has a party, everyone is invited! So let’s celebrate! We can have fun by putting these hearts on the parachute and bouncing them HIGH!”*
  
- ⇒ **Turn the music on and have children join you in bouncing the parachute: High, low, fast, slow, etc. Each time all the hearts bounce off, ask...**
  - *“Who does Jesus love?”*
  - *“Jesus loves EVERYONE!”*
  
- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**
  
- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
  - *“Awesome job, friends! That was fun! It felt like a party! And when Jesus has a party, everyone is invited – because Jesus loves EVERYONE!”*
  - ***Who does Jesus love?***
  - ***Jesus loves everyone!”***

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## READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY FEBRUARY WEEK 4

### SANITIZE HANDS AND PASS OUT MOON SAND

#### READ

⇒ *If Jesus Lived Inside My Heart* by P.K. Hallinan

#### REVIEW *(You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)*

⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line

- ***Who does Jesus love?***
- ***Jesus loves everyone!***

⇒ Memory Verse

- ***“Do everything in love.” 1 Corinthians 16:14***

#### CONNECT IT AND PRAY

⇒ “Since we’ve been talking about loving like Jesus, we will make a list of things we can do to love like Jesus. Then, when we pray, we can ask God to help us do them! When I say your name, **tell me one way we can love like Jesus**, and I will write it down.

- *Have each child share and write the ideas down on the weekly question strip/board/paper.*

⇒ “Wow! This is a great list of ways we can love like Jesus!!”

⇒ Let’s fold our hands and bow our heads and **pray**:

- “Dear God, we want to do everything in love, just like Jesus. Please help us love everyone, everywhere, and do things like *(read the list the children made)*. We love you, God. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”