

Alley SG—August 14th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: I'll Take Care of You (Creation) • Genesis 1–2

Today's Key Question: How do you know when someone loves you?

Today's Bottom Line: God made us to take care of each other.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins.* 1 John 4:10 (NirV)

1. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Bibles, “Verse Relay” cards (1 set Group), Floor Tape, pens

What You Do:

- Use tape to make “Start” and “Finish” lines in your space.
- Place a shuffled stack of prepared “Verse Relay” cards in two different places along the “Finish” line.
- Divide kids into two teams and challenge them to a relay race to collect cards and put the memory verse in order.
- One kid from each team will begin at the start line and will place a book or Bible on top of their head.
- As they walk to the finish line, they must balance the book on their head the entire time.
- They can't hold the book and keep it in place, but they can steady it if they feel it slipping or shifting.
- If the book falls off, they must stop, place it back on their head, and continue.
- At the finish line, each player will pick up one of the cards from their stack, and walk back to their team, continuing to keep the book on their head until they cross the start line.
- Continue with the next player and keep playing until every card has been collected.
- Once they've collected all of the cards, teams will work together to put the cards in the correct order.
- The first team to have their memory verse in order is the winner.
- While kids are still separated in their teams, ask each team to take turns reciting the verse for the entire group.
- Encourage kids to keep working on memorizing this verse at home throughout the month.
- Tell kids that there are verses that specifically talk about how we should care for each other!
- Give each team two or three verses to look up in the Bible and ask for volunteers to read them out loud for the group.
 - Hebrews 13:16
 - Romans 12:10
 - Ephesians 4:32
 - John 13:34-35
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:11
 - Galatians 6:2
- Let each kid choose a verse reference to write on the back of one of the memory verse cards and take it home with them.

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: “Dynamic Duos Memory” Cards(1 set per Group), Bibles

What You Do:

- Shuffle the “Dynamic Duos Memory” cards and place them in a six-by-six grid in the center of the group, face down. (There are 28 total cards; 14 pairs.)
- Explain that you will be playing a game of memory. Kids will take turns choosing two cards at a time to turn over.
- If their cards are not a famous duo in either literature or the Bible, they must turn the cards back over and allow the next player to take a turn.

- If their cards are a famous duo, they get to keep their match and take another turn.
- Play until all matches have been turned over. The player with the most matches is the winner.
- Hand out Bibles and invite kids to turn to Genesis 2:18-22.
- Ask someone to read the passage out loud.
- Explain that every good author knows how important it is to carefully choose the characters in their story. All of these famous duos we saw in our memory game are well-known because of their special comradery.
- Ask:
 - Who is one pair from our game that you are familiar with, and why was their friendship special?
 - Do you have a friend like this? If so, how do you take care of each other?
- Explain that as the ultimate Author and Creator of our story God knew that all creatures on earth would need companions and community. God made this beautiful world and gave humans the job of taking care of it and taking care of each other.

3. Discussion Questions

- Think of the friends you have. What would life be like if you did not have them?
- What kinds of things does your family do to take care of you?
- How do you know when someone loves you?
- How does it make you feel when someone has taken care of you?
- How can you care for the people in your life?

4. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Put kids in pairs and hand each pair a Bible.
- Ask them to look up the verse, Ephesians 4:9-12, and choose one kid to read it out loud for the group.
- Explain how this verse mentions why God did not intend for us to be alone. Ask kids to point out the different ways this verse says we benefit from having each other.

What You Say:

“Dear God, You are such an epic God. You are the God who created us and saved us and wants to use us in Your big story. Please help us see every opportunity we come across this week to carry out the job You’ve given us to do. When challenges come up or we get tired, help us to remember that **[Bottom Line]** **God made us to take care of each other** and that we have this really cool responsibility given by You! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”