

September Wk 1

Backyard

Always

September 4

CRAFT

Heart Suncatcher

SUPPLIES: Heart cut out, sheet of contact paper, tissue paper squares, hole punch, yarn

Note: You may wish to have a helper prep the heart with the contact paper before craft time.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Begin by passing out the heart and reviewing the memory verse.**

- *“Our memory verse tells us that we can trust God with all our heart. Let’s review our memory verse motions together. ‘Trust in the Lord (point up) with all (arms out wide) your heart (hands over heart),’ Proverbs 3:5.” (Open hands like a book.)*

⇒ **Peel the backing off a sheet of contact paper. Press the heart FACE DOWN onto the contact paper. Cut the excess contact paper from around the heart before giving to kids. Show kids how to lay tissue paper squares flat to cover the contact paper.**

- *“We are going to make a beautiful suncatcher today. I have a sheet of clear, sticky paper for you. First, we need to put the heart on the paper with the words facing down. I will help you!”*
- *Now I want you to pick up one colorful square at a time and press it onto the sticky paper. Be careful not to crumble it. And cover all the sticky parts”*

⇒ **Once the contact paper is covered with tissue, trim the tissue around the heart. Then punch a hole in the top center of the heart and tie the yarn to make a hanger. You can have the kids hold it up to a window or the light.**

- *“Wow! These are SO beautiful!”*
- *We can trust God because God loves us no matter what. Nice job! No matter what we do or how we feel, God will always love us!”*

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

- *“You can hang this heart as a reminder that God loves you so much – no matter what! You can trust him with all your heart!”*
- ***Who loves you no matter what? God loves me no matter what!”***



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ACTIVITY #1

Name that Emoji

SUPPLIES: Emoji pages, Hannah Picture, Heart stickers

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **This activity can be done from tables or the center of the room. Gather children around you and show them emoji pages.**

- *“Friends! I have a bunch of emoji faces here. We are going to play a game called name that emoji.*
- *Look at all of these different faces I have here. Each one expresses a different emoji! How cool!”*

⇒ **Go through each emoji one at a time and have them make faces.**

- *Can you help me find the **frustrated** face? There it is! Can you make your own **frustrated** face? Good job!*
- *Does God love you when you feel **frustrated**? Yes! God loves us no matter what!*
- ***Who loves you no matter what? God loves me no matter what!***

⇒ **Repeat with each emoji: Afraid, Happy, Silly, Excited, Worried, Angry.**

⇒ **End with SAD and discuss today’s Bible story with the picture of Hannah. Give each child a heart sticker.**

- *(Hold up Hannah picture) Do you remember what Hannah was feeling in our Bible story today? She was feeling sad. Can you help me find the **sad** face? Hannah was sad because she couldn’t have a baby. She was so sad that she cried. Hannah knew she could always talk to God so she prayed. Hannah trusted God with all her heart because she knew God loved her.*
- *Can you make your own **sad** face? Good job! Does God love you when YOU feel **sad**? Yes! God loves us no matter what! I am going to give you a heart sticker to remind you that God loves you no matter what!*

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

- *We can always talk to God because God loves us no matter what!*
- ***“Who loves you no matter what? God loves me no matter what!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Heart Hot Potato

SUPPLIES: Heart pillow, CD player

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children sit in a circle in the center of the room. Show them the heart pillow.**

- *“Boys and Girls, what do I have here in my hands? That’s right! A heart! We can use this heart to remind us of God’s love for us. God loves us so much! And he loves us when we are sad, mad, frustrated, happy, confused, silly....all the time! God loves you no matter what!”*

⇒ **Demonstrate how to play hot potato.**

- *“We are going to play a game that is similar to hot potato. Has anyone played hot potato before?”*
- *When I turn the music on we are going to pass this heart around the circle. When the music stops, one person will be holding the heart. That person will stand up and I will ask him or her our big question – ‘Who loves you no matter what?’ Then give the pillow a big squeeze and say ‘God loves me no matter what!’*
- *Are you ready? Let’s play!*

⇒ **Repeat until each child has had a turn.**

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

- *“I am so glad that God loves us no matter what. And we can trust him no matter how we are feeling. Boys and girls, tell me one more time...”*
- ***Who loves you no matter what? God loves me no matter what!”***

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ACTIVITY #3

Memory Verse Practice

SUPPLIES: None

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **This activity can be done from spots at the table or spaced out in the center of the room.**
 - *“Friends, we have an awesome memory verse to practice! I want to try saying it in lots of different ways!”*

- ⇒ **Do memory verse all together in a variety of ways.**
 - *“First, let’s say it once together. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart.” Proverbs 3:5*
 - *Super loud*
 - *Super quiet*
 - *Really fast*
 - *Really Slow*
 - *Jumping up and down*
 - *Running in Place*
 - *All the boys*
 - *All the girls*
 - *Kids only*
 - *Teachers only*

- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested. If time permits, you can do one person at a time and give out stickers.**

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Nice work, my friends!”*
 - ***Who loves you no matter what?***
 - ***God loves me no matter what!”***

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY SEPTEMBER WEEK 1

SANITIZE HANDS AND PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- ⇒ The Bible
 - *The Beginner's Bible: Hannah's Prayer, p. 156*
- ⇒ How Much does God love me? by Adams
 - Read the story and then say: God loves you so very much! He loves you no matter what!

REVIEW *Pass out stickers as kids answer the questions!*

- ⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line
 - **Who loves you no matter what?**
God loves me no matter what!
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5**

CONNECT IT

- ⇒ Today in our true Bible story, Hannah felt sad. Let's make a list of things that make us feel sad. When I say your name, I want you to **tell me one thing that makes you feel sad.**
 - *Have each child share and write the ideas down on the board/paper.*

PRAY

- ⇒ This list reminds me that everyone feels sad sometimes. I love knowing that we can always talk to God about everything in our hearts, and God will always love us no matter what. Let's pray!
 - *"Dear God, sometimes we feel sad. [Child's name] feels sad when (read what they listed), and [child's name] feels sad when (read what they listed then continue with each child.) Please help us remember that when we feel sad, we can always talk to You about it and you will love us no matter what. You're the best, God. In Jesus' name, amen."*