

February Week 2

Backyard
Candy Hearts

February 12th

CRAFT

Candy Heart Valentines

SUPPLIES:

Candy heart cut outs, Window envelopes, dot markers, heart and smiley face stickers, crayons, verse sticker

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children take a seat. Pass out the candy heart cut-outs with phrases and put them in the envelope with the message showing in the window.**

- *“This month we are learning about how much Jesus loves us! Some people like to celebrate a holiday called Valentine’s Day which also celebrates love and that is coming up this week. Perfect timing!*
- *We are going to do a fun craft and make candy heart to celebrate love!*
- *These hearts are special because some of them have words and messages on them. Let’s see what they say and put them in our special Candy Hearts “box”.*
- *Can you find the purple heart? It says, ‘Jesus loves me’. That’s true! Jesus loves you so much! Let’s put that in our candy hearts box.*
- (Repeat with each color and phrase.)

⇒ **Pass out crayons, smiley/heart stickers, and dot markers (optional).**

- *Now look what I have here! I have 4 more special hearts for you to decorate. Let’s use these supplies to make our candy heart valentines beautiful!*

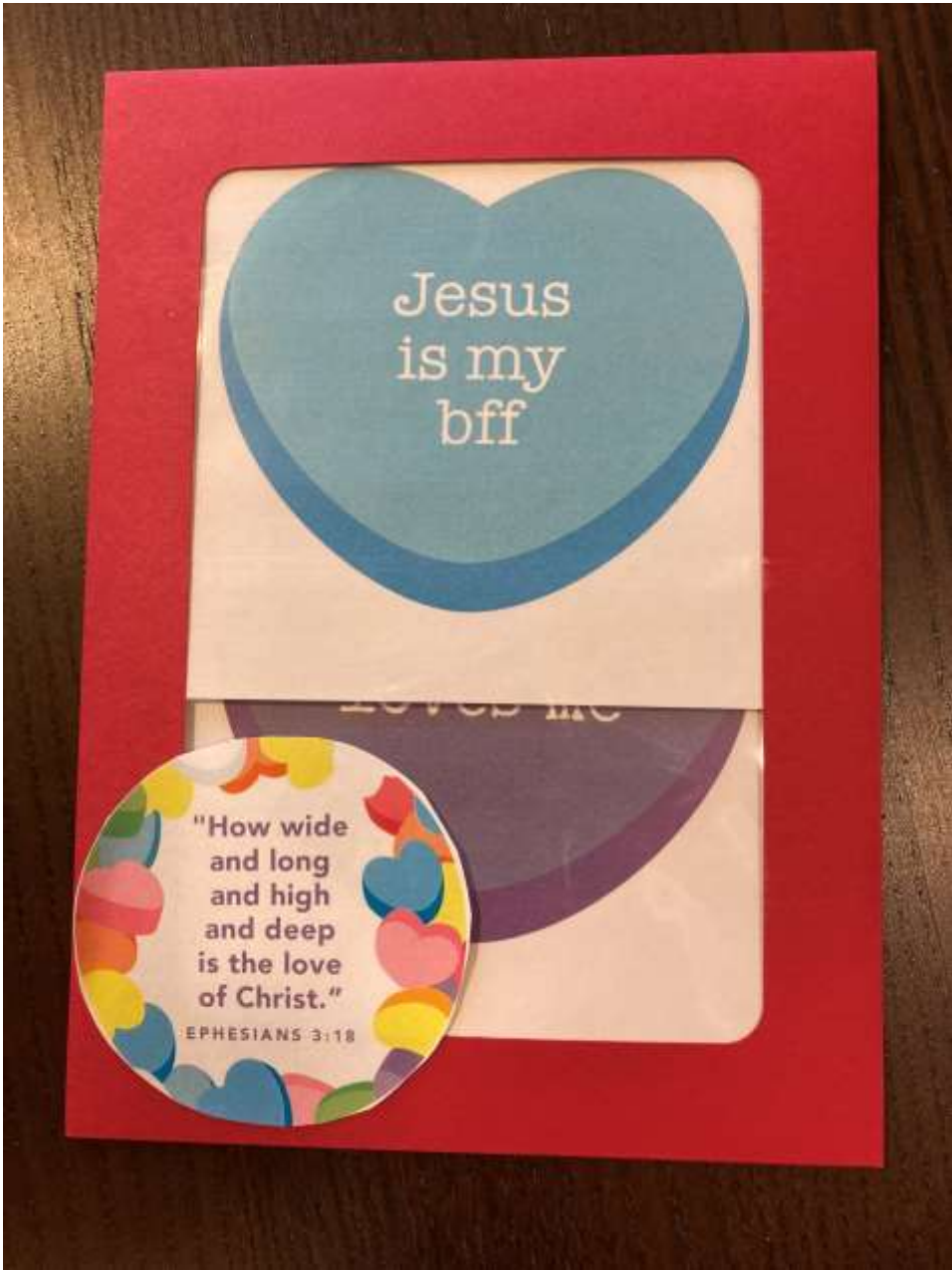
⇒ **Place all hearts in the candy heart “box” envelope. Place the circle sticker with the memory verse on the bottom left corner.**

- *“Let’s put all of our candy hearts in the envelope. I have a special sticker for you to put in the corner of the envelope. It says our memory verse! Jesus loves you so very much. His love is wide and long and high and deep! Let’s say our memory verse together: ‘How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.’ Ephesians 3:18.*
- *Great job!*

⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *“You can take these candy heart Valentines home and share the messages with your family! Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!*
- ***Who loves you? Jesus loves me!”***

Sample Craft



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ACTIVITY #1

Stop and Go

SUPPLIES:

Mary/Martha Stop and Go sign

SET-UP:

Place a long piece of floor tape on the floor on one side of the room for the children to stand spaced out on.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children stand spaced out on the floor tape line. Hold up your Stop/Go sign and explain it to the children.**

- *“In our true Bible story today, Jesus went to visit his friends, Mary and Martha. Jesus wanted to spend time with them. When Jesus got there, Mary stopped to listen to Jesus. Have you ever seen a STOP sign on the road? Do you know what color it is? Red! I have a special sign here and look who is on the red side of the stop sign. It’s Mary!*
- *And what color do we use for Go? Green! We have a picture of Martha on the green side because Martha just kept going and going.”*
- *We are going to play a little game of stop and go – red light green light. I will hold up my sign and when it is green, I want you to GO! When it’s red I want you to STOP!*

⇒ **Call out a command and hold up the sign. Alternate between red and green.**

- *“To make it even more fun, let’s do some really fun things when you have a green light. When I give you a command and you see the green, let’s go! Okay friends, let’s march! Green!!! (Alternate between Red and Green until they reach the other side.)*
- *Great job, friends. Head back to your spots, and let’s do it again. This time...*
 - Run in in place like a cheetah
 - Hop in place like a kangaroo
 - Swim like a fish
 - Waddle like a penguin
 - Star jump like a starfish
 - Chomp like an alligator
 - Move SLLLOOOOWWWWLLLYYY like a turtle
 - Any others you come up with ☺

⇒ **Repeat activity as long as kids are interested and Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Jesus said it was good that Mary stopped to listen and spend time with Him. Jesus wants you to stop and spend time with Him, too, because Jesus loves you.*
- ***Who loves you? Jesus loves me!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Heart Look and Find

SUPPLIES: Heart-shaped Stress Balls, parachute (optional)

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room.**

- *“In our true Bible story today, we heard about how Jesus LOVES us! Jesus loves us and ALWAYS wants to spend time with us.*
- *Jesus loves us so much. And he loves everyone! I have a bunch of hearts here. Let’s pretend that all of these hearts represent Jesus’ love for us.”*

⇒ **Scatter the hearts around the room.**

- *“I am going to put these hearts all over the room while you close your eyes. Then when I’m done, I want you to try to find them and bring them back to me!*
- *Are you ready? Go find the hearts!*

⇒ **Have children collect all the hearts.**

- *“Great work, everybody! You found all the hearts!*
- ***Who loves you?***
- ***Jesus loves me!***

⇒ ***Optional Variations**

- Have children come back with the hearts in different ways: hopping on one foot, with the bow on their head, jumping like a bunny, etc.
- Get a parachute and put the hearts on the parachute and pop them out.

⇒ **Let the children play as long as they are interested.**

⇒ **Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Wow, boys and girls! That’s a lot of hearts and a lot of love. But do you know what’s cool? Jesus loves us even more than all of the hearts we have here! He loves you so very much!*
- ***Who loves you?***
- ***Jesus loves me!***

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ACTIVITY #3

Memory Verse

SUPPLIES: None Needed

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.**
 - *“How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”*
Ephesians 3:18
 - *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?***
 - ***Jesus loves me!”***

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY
FEBRUARY WEEK 2

SANITIZE HANDS AND PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- ⇒ Read from the Bible.
 - *The Beginner's Bible: Mary and Martha, p. 385*
- ⇒ Read the picture book.
 - *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney
 - Tell the children, "This reminds me of Jesus' love for us. Only Jesus' love for us is even MORE! He loves us more than we could ever guess or imagine!"

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

- ⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line
 - Who loves you?**
 - Jesus loves me!**
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - **"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." Ephesians 3:18**

CONNECT IT

- ⇒ "Friends, today we learned that Jesus loves spending time with us! And since Jesus is always with us, we can spend time with him ANYWHERE! Let's make a list of our favorite places, and then we can thank Jesus that we can spend time with him anywhere!
 - *Write each child's answer on the white board or paper.*

PRAY

- ⇒ "This is a great list of places. Let's use it when we pray.
 - "Dear God, Thank You that Jesus loves to spend time with *[name each child]*. *Help us to stop, listen, and spend time with Jesus at (read the list the children made)*. It's so wonderful that we can spend time with Jesus anywhere because Jesus is always with us! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."