

Sunday School Lesson

Sunday, February 21, 2021

First Sunday in Lent



“Love God with All Your Heart and Your Neighbor as Yourself!”.

While labeled Sunday School, please feel free to use these ideas in a way that blesses your family. You do not have to do all the activities nor do you need to do them on Sunday morning. You can use whatever translation of the Bible or Children’s Bible you have in your home.

Read: Mark 12: 28-34

Activities and Background:

With the reading of this scripture often the question asked is “Who is my neighbor?”. People spend a lot of time trying to figure that out. Today let us focus on “How do you love yourself?” If we are to love others as we love ourselves then we need to look at how we take care of ourselves.

1. Read the scripture story. Discuss what is happening in the story. Wonder with your children: Who else was listening to this conversation? What were the expressions on Jesus’ face or the teacher’s face? Why is it important to love God first and then our neighbor? Who is your neighbor?
2. Discuss how you love yourself – by taking care of yourself, eating the right foods, sleeping, learning, reading the Bible, going to the dentist – what else? If this is what we do loving ourselves, then we should make certain that our neighbor has those things as well.
3. Practice some good habits this week: brushing teeth, washing hands, bedtime ritual, etc.
4. Decide on a project you can help with which will help children love their neighbor as themselves: give to a clothing or food drive, give someone a ride to school or church, celebrate birthday, build a house. What is it in your community that your neighbor’s need?
5. Make a list of neighbors. Do you know their names? Younger children need to start with those people who are actually your neighbors. Older children can stretch thinking to include world people. Think about what these people might need.
6. Make your favorite food and share it with your next-door neighbor.
7. End with a prayer.

*Help me to love you, God, most of all.
Help me to care for myself in a loving way.
Help me to care for others in a loving way.
Thank you, Jesus, for caring for and loving me.
Amen.*