

Parent Guide

Week of October 18

Memory Verse:

A friend loves
at all times.
Proverbs
17:17

Bible Time: Today we will be looking at friendships. More importantly, how to choose good friends. Did you know that Jesus is our best example of what makes a good friend. He showed us how to be the best friend we could ever have. Read John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son (Jesus), that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life". You see He loved us SO much He went to the Cross for our sins. God created you to love God, love ourselves and His creation.

So open your Bible to the book of Mark (it's in the New Testament) and read chapter 12 verses 30 and 31. "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second (commandment) is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no greater commandment than these. You see it's about others. Jesus knew Godly friendships with other Christians would help draw us closer to Him. Remember Solomon? He gave us careful advice in the Book of Proverbs so that if you listen to this advice carefully, you'll have God's wisdom that will make a huge difference when it comes to friendships. So listen up!

Read Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times." Did you see that? **ALL times.** A true friend never fails, no matter what. They are always ready to help in time of need or trouble. Friends treat each other as they would like to be treated. Now read John (still in the New Testament) chapter 13 verses 34 and 35. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

When we love our friends, we are being that bright light reflecting Jesus' love. Can you think of one way that you can love a friend this week?

Craft: Yarn Friendship Bracelets Supplies: 7 Threads in different colors x 19" in length, a small piece of cardboard, scissors, tin can or something to use as a circular template. Using a tin can or something similar, cut out a cardboard circle. Draw 4 lines across your disc to create 8 equal segments. Make a hole in the middle. Cut a small snip into each line you have drawn – so you have approximately 1/2" cut, 1/2" uncut and then the hole. Take your seven strands of yarn and tie a knot at one end. Thread your strands through the hole in the disc. Take one strand at a time and slot it through one of the strips. You should have 7 strands tucked in, with one "space slot". Take the 3rd strand to the LEFT of the spare slot, lift it up, bring it down and put across the spares slot. This creates a new space. Rotate your disc for this to point down and pick the strand 3 to the left and fold down. Repeat. Your yarn friendship bracelet will begin to "grow" on the other side of the disc, give it a gentle tug every so often. Tie off to complete.



PRAY: Thank you Jesus that you are the **BEST** friend we could ever have. Help us to be wise when picking friends. Help us to love friends well and reflect your love to others. **Amen.**