



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others because
God loves you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit
produces is love, joy and peace.
It is being patient, kind and good.
It is being faithful and gentle and
having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can
change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("Making Waves" from *Make Waves EP* and
"Love Like You" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Over-Flowing Love
Application Activity: Fill 'Er Up!
Memory Verse Activity: Make Waves Mural
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for loving each of us enough to send Jesus. Pray that kids would learn that when they take the love God gives and use it to love others, they can make waves that change the world around them. Thank God for the power of the Spirit to help everyone who follows Jesus to change the world for the better.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Love others because
God loves you.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, Nlrv

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name to Small Group as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Play a game of "Four Corners."
- Number each corner of your space #1-4.
- Read the options below or come up with your own numbered options.
- Instruct the kids to run to their favorite choice or to the option they would most like to try.
- Some ideas:
 - One, swimming; Two, water skiing; Three, kayaking; Four, tubing
 - One, lake; Two, river; Three, pool; Four, ocean
 - One, raft; Two, tube; Three, floaties; Four, flippers
 - One, sprinkler; Two, super soaker; Three, fire hydrant; Four, kiddie pool
 - One, lazy river; Two, water slide; Three, wave pool; Four, hydro coaster



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Large poster board or a long piece of paper, blue/water themed paint, markers and crayons, decorations

NOTE: You'll be making the background of the mural that you'll use for the Memory Verse Activity all summer long so use the most durable background you can find. Make sure it's small enough that you can store it somewhere every week, if necessary, but large enough to fit nine decals about the size of half a sheet of paper.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?

We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set out the poster board or paper, paint, and decorating materials.
- Encourage the kids to work together with the materials to make an ocean water background with plenty of waves.
- Set aside to dry.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others because
God loves you.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"We've made an awesome ocean background! I like the way you used [material names] to make waves along this water. **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group and hear more about making waves!**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit
produces is love, joy and peace.
It is being patient, kind and good.
It is being faithful and gentle and
having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can
change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



*** 1. OVER-FLOWING LOVE**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Over-Flooding Love Verses" Activity Page, Bibles, several plastic cups in a small tub, marbles, pitcher of water, towel

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set the cups in the tub and put a few marbles in each cup so they don't tip over.
- Fill the cups almost full of water.
- Pair kids up, stronger readers with newer ones.
- Set out the "Over-Flooding Love Verses" strips and the Bibles.
- Instruct each pair to choose four verses and a Bible.
- Give the youngest kid in each pair the extra marbles.
- Instruct each pair to look up one of the verses together.
- Direct the older kid in each pair to stand and read the verse aloud while the younger kid slowly adds marbles to their cup for as long as the verse is read.
- All groups should do this at the same time.
- Keep going until all the verses have been read and all the cups are overflowing with water!
- Dry off the marbles and set them aside for later.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Love others because
God loves you.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NlrV

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"In Large Group, we heard some of these verses and the others are probably familiar to you. When we talk about making waves, we have to start with love. God's love started everything—all of creation and all people.

"Nothing can stop God's love. Even when people broke their relationship with God, His love didn't stop. In fact, God's love made a way to fix that relationship by sending Jesus. God's love makes all other kinds of love—loving your family, friends, and community—possible.

"When you **love others because God loves you**, you're inviting your friends and family and those around you to know more about God's love. Whenever you show love, you're showing others who God is."

Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- Which of these verses do you like the most? Which ones are the best reminders of God's love?
- Who has shown you God's love lately?
- Is there anyone you know who really needs to know about God's love? How can you tell them?



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



2. FILL 'ER UP! [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Spoons, plastic cups, bucket of water

NOTE: Do this game outside if possible. If not, do it in an area where the floor will not be slippery when water drops on it.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Give each kid a spoon.
- Set the bucket at one side of your playing area and the cups at the other.
- Line up both teams behind the bucket.
- Direct the first kid on each team to scoop a spoonful of water from the bucket, carry it to their team's cup, dump in whatever water is left, run back, and tag the next kid in line.
- The first team to fill their cup to the line wins!

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Love others because
God loves you.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Good job, team! I like this game because it shows what just a little drop at a time can do. Spoonful by spoonful, you filled your cups. There was so much water in the bucket that you knew you'd never run out of water. You could just keep scooping and scooping and running it to your team's cup.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NlrV

"God's love is just like that. It will never run out. We can share it again and again and again and there will always be enough. You can **love others because God loves you** over and over again.

"How are you going to show God's love and carry your little spoonful of water from the bucket to someone this week?" *(Invite responses—let someone go first, care for a younger sibling, do something kind for a neighbor, share with those in need, donate time or money to a service project, etc.)*

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can change the world around you.

[Make It Personal] *(Share the last time you deliberately shared God's love with someone—either by telling them about Jesus or doing something loving for someone who didn't expect it. Why did you decide to do that specific action or have that conversation? What happened next? Invite kids to share ways they've loved others this week or this month.)*

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



3. MAKE WAVES MURAL

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Make Waves Mural Week 1" Activity Page, Bibles, beach ball, dry erase marker, mural from "Opening Activity," tape or glue

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up Galatians 5:22-23, using the Bible navigation tips below.
- Invite the group to decide where to put the "Make Waves Mural Week 1" beach ball cutout on the mural.
- Tape or glue the beach ball cutout on the mural.
- Direct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Give one kid in the circle the beach ball and dry erase marker.
- Direct the group to pass around the ball and marker, instructing each kid to write or draw on the ball one way they can show love this week.
- Store the mural in a safe place to use next week.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

Finding verses with a multi-age group: Guide all kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, ask a middle elementary kid (2nd–3rd grade) to find Galatians in the list under "New Testament." When the kid finds Galatians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and say it, explaining that the number tells them on what page they can find Galatians. Ask older elementary kids (4th–5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their own Bibles. When they all find Galatians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 5, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers, and ask a middle elementary kid to find verse 22 in chapter 5. Then, read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others because
God loves you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NlrV

WHAT YOU SAY:

"These are all great ways to **love others because God loves you**. We're going to add to this mural every week this summer so that we can see how God can use us to make waves in our families, schools, and communities.

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can
change the world around you.

"This verse might sound familiar to some of you. Have you ever heard it before? (Allow responses.) It's often called the 'Fruit of the Spirit' verse. We could also call it the 'Proof of the Spirit' verse. This verse lists the nine attributes God will grow in us as we follow and listen to the Spirit in us. And these nine attributes will change the world around us.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.



WEEK
ONE
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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(3. MAKE WAVES MURAL, CONTINUED)

"When you show any of these characteristics or attitudes, you're showing the world that God loves us and wants to change the world through us. Which of these have you experienced most this week? Has someone been really patient or kind to you? What have you shown this week: gentleness or joy or something else? Which one do you feel like you need the most right now?"

"Love is where it all starts, in this verse, in our lives, and in the world. I'm so excited to hear how you will **love others because God loves you.**"



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SMALL GROUP
K-5
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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Marbles from "Over-Flowing Love" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a marble.
- As you do, say, "[Kid's name], keep this in your pocket this week to remind you to **love others because God loves you.**"
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us first! Thank You for creating us with love and saving us with love. Please help us show Your love to others this week in practical ways. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them about the marble in their kid's pocket so if it ends up in the laundry, it can find its way back. Prompt kids to tell families about the marbles and over-flowing water cups!

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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God loves you.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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K-5
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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large poster board or a long piece of paper
- Blue/water themed paint
- Markers or crayons
- Water themed decorations like streamers, tissue paper, etc.

NOTE: You'll be making the background of the mural that you'll use for the Memory Verse Activity all summer long so use the most durable background you can find. Make sure it's small enough that you can store it somewhere every week, if necessary, but large enough to fit nine decals about the size of half a sheet of paper.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

* 1. OVER-FLOWING LOVE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Over-Floving Love Verses" Activity Page and cut apart; one set for each small group
- Bibles
- Shallow plastic tub
- Several small plastic cups that fit in the shallow plastic tub
- At least 50 marbles; 12-15 for each pair of kids
- Pitcher of water
- Towel (to dry the marbles)

2. FILL 'ER UP!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Spoons; one for each kid
- Two plastic cups, each marked at the same height
- Bucket of water

NOTE: Do this game outside if possible. If not, do it in an area where the floor will not be slippery when water drops on it.

3. MAKE WAVES MURAL

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Make Waves Mural Week 1" Activity Page on heavy paper or cardstock and cut out; one for each small group.
- Bibles
- Beach ball, inflated
- Dry erase marker
- Mural from "Opening Activity"
- Tape

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Marbles from "Over-Floving Love" Activity



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**

JOHN 3:16

1 JOHN 4:9

1 JOHN 4:10

1 JOHN 4:19

ROMANS 8:38

EPHESIANS 2:4

ROMANS 5:5

PSALM 48:9

What to Do:

Print and cut apart. Provide one set for each small group.

TITUS 3:4

PSALM 51:1

PSALM 136:2

1 JOHN 4:11

NEHEMIAH 1:5

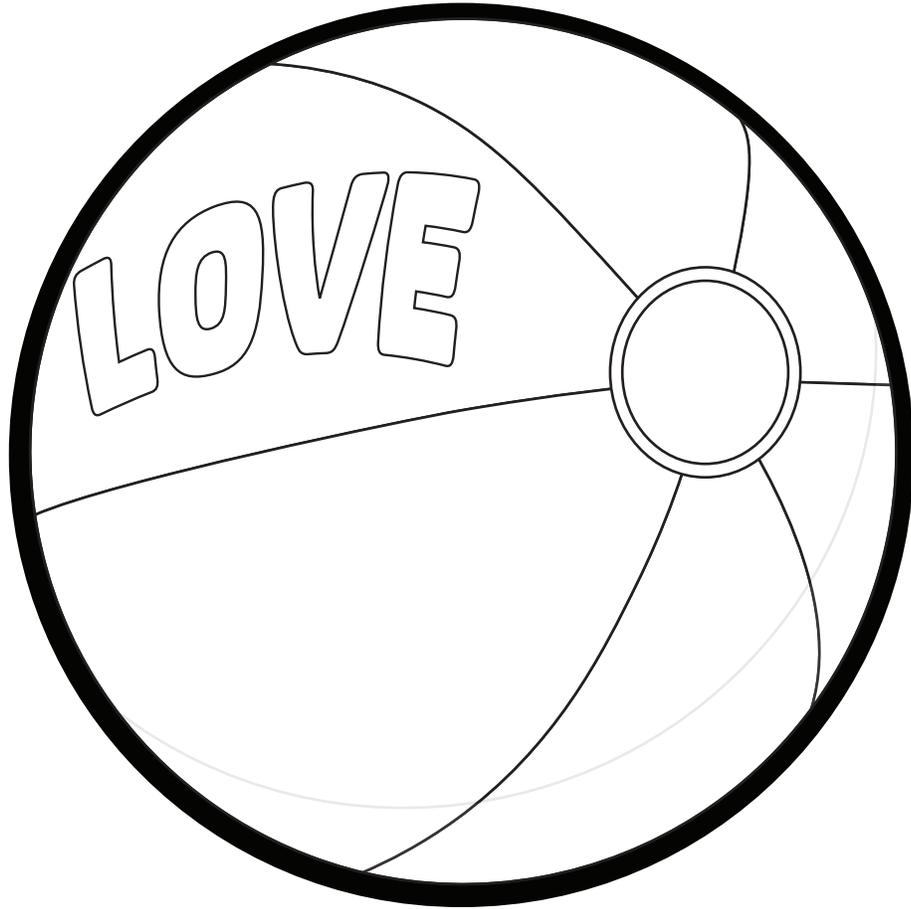
2 CORINTHIANS 1:3

MICAH 7:18

1 JOHN 3:1

What to Do:

Print and cut apart. Provide one set for each small group.



What to Do:

Print on heavy paper or cardstock and cut out. Provide one for each small group.

"Make Waves Mural Week 1" Activity Page

June 2022, Week 1, K-5 Starter

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