

# Kids Church

March 15, 2026

K- 1<sup>st</sup> Grades



**Theme This Week-** “God loves you and your enemies!”

**Prayer Time-** Heavenly Father, sometimes we are asked to do things that nobody else does. It is so hard. Help us to see the truth behind what You are teaching us. Help us to see how we can trust You no matter what. That doing things everyone does is not always a good thing. Prepare us to take Your Word and just do it.

**Challenge-** Upside Down Challenges

**Special Story-** He tried to punch my youth pastor.

**Memory Verse –** “Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.”

*Philippians 2:3*

**Songs-** Free, Goodness of God, Jesus Loves Me

**Devotion-** Love your enemies

**Matthew 5:38-48**

**hopekids**

# Small Group Time

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## Upside Down Hearts

### What You Need:

- Plastic cups
- Heart sticker

### What You Do:

- Scatter all the cups upside down on the floor.
- Tell the kids that you've hidden a special heart on the bottom of one of the cups.
- Instruct the kids to take turns flipping over one cup at a time, looking for the heart.
- When a kid finds the cup with the heart sticker, celebrate!
- Ask that kid to name one way they can show love to someone this week, especially someone who might be hard to love. (e.g., "I can share with my brother even when I don't want to," "I can say something nice to the kid who was mean to me.")
- Hide the heart again, turn the cups over, and play another round.

### What You Say:

"You found the heart! Finding that heart reminds us to find ways to show love to others. Jesus taught us that our Father in heaven sends the sun and rain on everyone, not just nice people. That can seem upside down!

"So what does this look like for us? Loving your enemies is so hard, but God hasn't left you to do it alone! When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit will help you. Ask for His help! And then, do what you can do to show God's love. Choose kindness instead of getting back at someone. It takes true humility to put others first and **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"

# Take Time to Pray with your Kiddos!

## Tic Tac Memory Verse

### What You Need:

- Bibles
- “Tic Tac Memory Verse” Activity Page
- Floor tape
- Beanbags or other small toys to use as markers (in two different colors)

### What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse
- Repeat the verse aloud several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Guide the kids to put their Bibles aside.
- Divide the kids into two teams, “X” and “O.”
- Give both teams five beanbags (or markers).
- Encourage a kid from the first team to toss a beanbag onto the board.
- If the beanbag (or marker) lands on a square with part of the verse, instruct the whole group to read that part aloud.
- If the beanbag (or marker) lands on a blank square, encourage the team to leave their beanbag (or marker) there.
- Teams take turns trying to get three in a row.
- After the game, say the whole Memory Verse together. (Don’t forget to add the verse reference—Philippians 2:3!)
- Play several rounds if desired.

### What You Say:

“Great game, everyone! Our Memory Verse tells us to be humble and put others first. That’s a huge part of how we can **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it’s hard**. That’s what humility looks like. Be humble and value others more than yourselves. When we do that, we **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it’s hard**.”

# Discussion Questions

1. What's one of the hardest jobs you have ever had to do?
2. What made it so hard to do?
3. What does the phrase and eye for an eye mean? It means that if someone hurts you then you are allowed to hurt them back as much as they hurt you.
4. Under that rule, if your brother hurts you, what can you do?
5. Do you think Jesus was ever hurt by His brothers or sisters? (He had 4 brothers and at least two sisters!)
6. Do you think He hurt them back?
7. What did Jesus say about this old rule? We are done with it.
8. What is the new rule Jesus wants us to follow? If someone hurts you, do not hurt them back. If someone takes something from you, give them more.
9. Does this sound easy to follow? Not at all.
10. Instead of hurting your enemies, what does Jesus want us to do? He wants us to love them!
11. Why do you think He wants us to do this? He wants us to trust that He will take care of you even if it looks hard.
12. How can Jesus help us learn to love people that are mean to us?