

Kids Church

March 15, 2026

2nd-3rd 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

Rhythm Repeat

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Explain that you are going to build a rhythm together.
- Start by doing one simple action, like clapping twice.
- The kid to your right is to repeat your action (clapping twice) and add their own simple action (like snapping once).
- The next kid in the circle is to do both actions in order (clapping twice, snapping once) and add a new one (like patting their knees twice).
- Continue around the group, with each kid repeating the whole pattern and adding one new move.
- See how long you can keep the pattern going!

What You Say:

“That was amazing! It got really hard to remember the whole pattern! It can also be hard to remember to be kind when someone is not kind to us. Showing love to someone you don’t get along with feels upside-down. But that’s why it’s so important and so powerful. God loves everyone. When people see you choosing to love when it’s hard, they’ll know that you’re different. They’ll see that you’re a follower of Jesus.

“Loving people who are hard to love is one of the most powerful ways that you can live like Jesus. It’s not always easy, but you can pray and ask God for help. When you began to follow Jesus, His Holy Spirit, Jesus’ very Spirit, who loves His enemies, moved inside of you. And He can help you so you can **[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?