FAMILY DEVOTION

The Fruit of the Spirit: *"Love"*

"If I Love God,Then I'll Love You!"

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."
- 1 John 4:8

Say:
It's easy to love those we enjoy being around. Our friends, our family, and those who make us happy are easy to show and demonstrate God's love to. However, those who are different than us, irritate us, or are mean to us - it is often difficult for us to show love to them.

Read:
Luke 19:1-10

Ask/Discuss:
- What line of work was Zacchaeus in?
- Why couldn't Zacchaeus see Jesus over the crowd?
- How did Zacchaeus end up being able to see Jesus?
- Did the religious people like the fact that Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house?

Say:
Those who claim to be followers of Jesus don't have the right to pick and choose who they love. Instead, we must show God's love to EVERYONE! It is to be THE defining element of our lives. Jesus said,"They will know you are my disciples by your love for one another." Each one of us - if we love God, then we MUST love others.

Ask/Discuss:
- Who are some people that are difficult to love?
- What are some ways we can show love to those people?

Say:
Every chance we get, we must speak kindly, show mercy, and be gracious to those around us. That will be what shows that we REALLY love God.

Pray:
Pray with your children that they will always show love to others. Pray that LOVE will always be a fruit that is evident in their lives.