



WEEK TWO – FEBRUARY 2026 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *The Most Important Commandment | Matthew 22:34-40*

Bottom Line: *Love God. Love others.*

Memory Verse: *“I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.” (John 13:34, NIRV)*

Conversation Starter: *How have others shown love to you?*

Application: *Love – Choosing to treat others the way Jesus treats us.*

Series Overview: What’s the first thing you want to do when you discover a funny video or listen to a powerful podcast? Share it, of course! That’s why we chose “Like and Subscribe: Share the love of Jesus” as this month’s theme. We want kids to know that there’s nothing more awesome they can share with others than the love and adventure of a life with Jesus.

8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Before kids arrive, pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time! Thank God that His love is for the whole world, and that includes you and every person you will ever meet. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time you were confused about God, and He met you in your questions. Ask God to help the kids in your group understand that “the whole world” means everyone. Pray they would know God loves them, He loves their family, He loves their friends, and He loves the new person at school.*
 - *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these:
 - *What was your favorite part of this last week?*
 - *What is something that makes you feel loved?*
 - *How do you show love to your friends and family?*
 - *How many of the ten commandments can you name?*
 - *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity
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9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: “People Picture” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Tell kids we’re going to play a guessing game similar to ‘Hedbanz’ if they’ve played it!
- Choose one kid to start.
- Tell the kid to pick a picture and hold it up to their forehead, facing out, so everyone else in the circle can see it, but they cannot.
- Instruct the kid to ask “yes” or “no” questions to figure out who is on their picture. (e.g., “Do I wear a uniform?” “Do I work in a school?”)
- Share that the other kids can only answer “yes” or “no.”
- Help the kids guess and then let the next kid have a turn with a new picture.

What You Say:

“Great guessing, everyone! There are so many different kinds of people in the world, and they all do important jobs. *[Transition]* **In our true story from the Bible today, Jesus is going to talk about something that’s important for ALL people to do. Let’s go find out what it is!”**

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

During Week 2, we explore the Most Important Commandment. Several religious leaders try to trap Jesus with a trick question: basically, choose your top commandment so everyone can take you down for picking the wrong one. Just how many rules are we talking here? We revisit the original Ten Commandments in Exodus, as well as the additional 603 laws and the extras added around them by

the religious leaders. Instead of debating, Jesus rolls them all into two simple commands. [BOTTOM LINE] Love God. Love others.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: Optional coloring pages for kids

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in small group space
- If kids need something to do with their hands, they can color during discussion!
- Talk about the discussion questions below with the kids!
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What You Say:

- Jesus said the most important commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind. What does it look like to love God with all of who you are—not just your words, but your thoughts, choices, and feelings?
- The second most important commandment says to love your neighbor as yourself. Is it hard to love others like you love yourself? How can God help you do both?
- When you think about your normal day—school, friends, family—where do you think it’s easiest for you to show love, and where is it hardest? What could help you love better in the hard places?

LOVE NOTES

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: Cardstock cards; coloring supplies; heart stickers; bible

What You Do:

- Invite them to look up John 13:34 and read the Memory Verse together out loud several times.
- Give each kid a card and envelope and make the coloring supplies and stickers available.
- Tell them they are going to make a Valentine's Day card for someone they love. (family member, friend, etc.)
- Encourage them to draw a picture and decorate their card.
- Help them write a short note inside. At the end of their note, help them write: **[Bottom Line] Love God. Love others.**
- Ask: “What does it actually mean to love the people in your life?” (e.g., sharing, being kind, helping).

What You Say:

“These cards are beautiful! The people who get these will feel so loved. When you give this card to them, you are showing them what Jesus wants us to do. Jesus wants us to love one another. You are choosing to: **[Bottom Line] Love God. Love others.**”

BACKPACK TAG

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bibles; Backpack Tag Activity Page; Plastic Bag Tags; Coloring Supplies

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible or have them group up with a bible.
- Invite them to look up John 13:34 using the Bible Navigation Tips.
 - ***Finding verses for 2-3rd graders:** Guide them 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, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page*

they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Encourage the kids to set aside the Bibles.
- Say: “Jesus wants us to love one another! In fact, as we learned in our Bible Story today, that is one of the most important things we can do! Let’s make something to help us remember that.”
- Give every kid a “Backpack Tag” Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies and invite the kids to decorate their “Backpack Tag” Activity Page.
- Read the words together as kids insert their tag into the plastic sleeve.
- Show kids how to thread the plastic loop through the hole and the other part of the same loop to secure.

What You Say:

“Today, you made a special tag for your backpack to remind you of the two most important things God wants you to do, and that is ***[Bottom Line]* Love God. Love others**. Now whenever you’re at school or practice and see your awesome backpack tag, you can remember to ***[Bottom Line]* Love God. Love others**. You can show love to others by doing things like holding the door open for a teacher, inviting someone to play with you, or using kind words. Jesus said we should love one another just as He has loved us. We show our love for God by loving others. That’s the main goal!”