



FEBRUARY THEME
**BEHIND THE
SCENES**

BIBLE STORY

Luke 10:25-37

Roadside Assistance | The Good Samaritan
Spark Story Bible | pg. 360-365

BOTTOM LINE

Love others because they matter to God

MEMORY VERSE

“Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins.”

1 John 4:10, NIV

LIFE APP

Love | Choosing to treat others the way you want to be treated

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **LOVE** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story

This WEEK: We finish the month in **Luke 10:25-37**. When Jesus told the Pharisee’s “Love your neighbor as you love yourself,” they shot back with another question. “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus went on to tell the story of the Good Samaritan. When faced with the decision to ignore an enemy or have compassion, the Samaritan chose to set aside his differences and show love.

Bottom Line: **Love others because they matter to God.** We won’t always get along with everyone we meet, but that doesn’t mean they aren’t deserving of God’s love. Through this story, we pray that kids will see that all people matter to God, and we should show God’s love to everyone we meet.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

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

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Each and every person matters because he or she was made by God. Pray for the kids who tend to have a hard time being loving and kind to others. Pray that God would change their hearts and open their eyes to a world in need of God’s love.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to tell the group stories about times they got hurt: broke a bone, fell off a bike, got stitches, etc.

•• **FIX THE BOO-BOO**

What You Need: “People” activity pages, crayons, Band-Aids

What You Do:

- Hand out “People” activity pages and crayons.
- Tell each kid to draw a “boo-boo” on their person using crayons. It can be a cut, a break, a bruise, etc.
- Then allow each kid to use a Band-Aid to “fix” the boo-boo.

What You Say: “I’m so glad you helped these people who were hurt! **[Transition] Today in Large Group Worship/WOW Family Worship, we’ll hear/we heard about someone else who got hurt.**”



[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Large Group Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

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

•• **ACTION!** *(application activity / review the Bible story)*

What You Need: Spark Story Bible, “Good Samaritan” coloring page, crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out coloring pages and crayons.
- As kids color, read “The Good Samaritan” on pgs. 360-365 in the Spark Story Bible.
- After reading it once, assign a role to each kid:
 - Jesus
 - Authority on the law
 - Traveling man
 - Priest
 - Levite
 - Samaritan
 - Robbers (anyone who wasn’t assigned a role above)
- Re-read The Good Samaritan aloud while kids act it out according to their assigned role.
- Then reassign roles and let the kids retell the story on their own while acting it out.

What You Say: “Some of you may have heard this story about the ‘Good Samaritan’ before. You probably learned that it’s good to help people like the Samaritan did. But did you learn why we should help people? It’s because they matter to God. The authority of the law asked Jesus who his neighbor was, and Jesus basically told him his neighbor was anyone, because everyone matters and everyone needs our love and God’s love. **[Bottom Line] Love others because they matter to God.**”

•• **OTHERS MATTER GAME** *(application activity)*

What You Need: “Game Board” activity pages, “Scenario Cards,” game pieces, die

What You Do:

- Lay out the game board on your small group table.
- Let kids choose a bead for a game piece and set them on start.
- Kids will take turns rolling the die. Explain that whenever kids land on a heart, they will draw a “Scenario Card” from the pile, read it *(or ask you to read it)*, and do what it says.
- If you run out of cards before the game is over, shuffle them and use them again.
- If the game ends quickly, feel free to play again!

What You Say: “When we show love to people, we show them that they matter to God and they matter to us. These scenarios we just read about and thought up are all great ways to love others, and there are countless other ways we can love others. **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you showed someone else they mattered to God. How did that affect that person’s life?)** Remember, **[Bottom Line] love others because they matter to God.**”



•• **VERSE AID** *(memory verse activity)*

What You Need: BAND-AIDS

What You Do:

- Read the memory verse *(found on page 1 of this leader guide)* to your group and then say the verse a couple times together.
- Hand out the BAND-AIDS and let kids choose where to put them on themselves. Tell them they can put the BAND-AID anywhere, but it has to be somewhere that can be seen and a place they can “raise up.” *(Could be arm, hand, foot, etc. But also could be forehead; the kid would just have to stand up or get on tiptoes in order to “raise” that body part.)*
- Gather the group together in a circle.
- Say the verse and every time the word “love/loved” is said, kids have to raise the part of their body that has the BAND-AID on it.
- Do this a few times, varying the “style” of the word “love.” *(For instance, for one round, kids can make a chipmunk voice for “love,” and then for another round, they can make a singing voice.)*

What You Say: “We matter so much that God sent Jesus to earth for us. Isn’t that amazing? Everyone matters to God, and everyone should matter to us. **[Bottom Line] Love others because they matter to God.**”

PRAY AND SEND

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Let kids take turns praying: “God, help me to love others because they matter to you.”
- Finish with the prayer below...

What You Say: “God, we’re glad we matter to you. Help us to love others because they matter to you too. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

[Apply] Give each parent a Faith Five Family Tools as they come to pick up their child and remind them to use it as a family devotional tool this week.

Ask parents to brainstorm with their kids one thing they can do as a family this week to love someone as a neighbor. Then do it!