



FEBRUARY THEME

PLAYLIST

Put Love into the Mix

BIBLE STORY

Luke 10:38-42

I'm Yours | Jesus at the Home of
Martha and Mary
Spark Story Bible, pg. 366-371
Mary and Martha

BOTTOM LINE

Love others in a way that meets
them where they are

MEMORY VERSE

"Here is my command. Love one
another, just as I have loved you"
John 15:12, 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.

Key Question: What keeps you from connecting with others? Most people would never intentionally ignore others or make them feel like they don't matter. Often, we don't connect with others simply because we're not showing them love in a way that connects with them. When we start to understand how we connect with others—and how others connect with us—we'll be more likely to treat others the way we want to be treated.

In week two, we find Jesus at the home of his friends, Mary and Martha. In **Luke 10:38-42**, we find how these two sisters had different things in mind when it came to having Jesus in their home. Mary sat at Jesus' feet while he talked. Martha was busy doing all the things that she felt needed to get done. She complained to Jesus, but he answered that what Mary was doing was loving him in a way that resonated with her. Neither was a "right" or "wrong" way...just different.

Bottom Line: Love others in a way that meets them where they are. We often think that the only way we can show love for others is by being busy doing stuff for them. But sometimes people don't need us to be busy; sometimes they just need us to be. When we meet others where they are and love them in a way that resonates with them, we have a better chance of showing them God's unending love.

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 group member by name. Pray that kids would be inspired by Mary's example to pay attention to the needs of others, and to love them by meeting their needs. Ask God to help kids find ways to show love by meeting people where they are.

●● **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: "Mary and Martha" coloring pages, crayons

What You Do:

- Hand each kid a "Mary and Martha" coloring page. Set out crayons where everybody can share them.
- As kids color, ask:
 - What are some things your parents, teachers, or friends ask you to do to help them that you enjoy doing?
 - What are some things your parents, teachers, or friends ask you to do to help them that you don't enjoy doing?



●● **MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE**

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Help kids think through who they spend time with throughout the day and how they can show love in different ways at different times.
- Ask kids to think about 7:00 in the morning.
—Tell them that at 7:00 in the morning, they're probably getting up and getting ready for school.
—Ask kids to tell you some things they do with people at that time of day. Maybe they're eating breakfast with their siblings or watching the baby while a parent puts in a load of laundry.
- Then ask kids to think about 12:00 noon.
—Tell kids that around 12:00—or noon—every day, they eat lunch.
—Ask them to tell you some things they do with people at that time of day. Maybe they eat lunch with some friends at school, and perhaps they get to play outside for a little bit before heading back to class.
- Continue this activity with other times throughout the day, such as 4:00 (*after school*), 6:00 (*dinner time*), and 8:00 (*bed time*).

What You Say: “Wow! You sure have lots of opportunities throughout the day to show love to lots of different people in lots of different ways! [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about two sisters who showed love to Jesus at the same time in two very different ways.

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to Fellowship Hall for Children's Ministry 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.

●● **TIME TO JUMP** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Time to Jump Scenarios” activity page

What You Do:

- Ask kids several questions to review today's Bible story:
—What were the sisters' names in our story? (*Mary and Martha*)
—Who came to visit them? (*Jesus*)
—What did Mary do while Jesus was there? (*Sat at his feet and listened to him*)
—What did Martha do? (*She was busy getting things ready: cooking, cleaning and fussing over Jesus*)
—Why was Martha upset with Mary? (*Because she wasn't helping to do the work*)
—What did Jesus tell Martha? (*That there is more than one way to show love. Preparing the meal and spending time with Jesus were both good ways to show Jesus they love him.*)
- Tell kids to stand up and spread out so everybody has enough room to jump.
- Read the first scenario from the “Time to Jump Scenarios” activity page.
- Tell kids to jump one time if that scenario is a good way to show love or to jump two times if they can think of a different choice that may be better in that scenario.



—If kids jump two times, ask them to share what other choice they could make.

- Repeat for the rest of the scenarios.

What You Say: “There are lots of ways we can show people we love them. Spending time with others is almost always a GREAT way to show them love. You can **[Bottom Line] Love others in a way that meets them where they are** when you spend time with them.

•• **TIME TO LOVE** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Time to Love” activity pages, crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out the “Time to Love” activity pages, and set out the crayons where everybody can share them.
- Tell kids to think of someone in their life they could show love to by spending more time with: a little sibling, a friend, an older sibling, a parent, a grandparent, the older lady next door, etc.
 - Instruct kids to circle the picture that most looks like the person they’re thinking of.
 - Guide kids to draw a picture of a way they could spend time with that person this week or sometime very soon doing something that the other person loves to do.
- You might need to give them a few prompts to get them thinking:
 - You could play cards with your grandpa.
 - You could do a craft with your little sister.
 - You could play catch with a friend.
 - You could read a book with your mom.
 - You could draw a picture for the lady next door who has been sick.
- **[Make It Personal]** *(Do the “Time to Love” activity page yourself, and/or tell kids someone you can spend time with this week and what you might do with that person that would show them you love them.)*

What You Say: “Those are some great ideas! I can tell you’re all going to do a fantastic job of living out our Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] Love others in a way that meets them where they are.** And do you know what? You can also love Jesus by spending time with him! Yes, you can! What are some ways you can spend time with Jesus? (*Reading the Bible, praying, singing worship songs, doing GodTime Cards*) That’s right. We can show Jesus we love him when we spend time doing all of these things. And remember, showing others we love them by meeting them where they are isn’t just something we need to do this week, but always!”

•• **TIME TO MOVE** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Use the Bible navigation tips below to help your group look up and read this month’s memory verse.
 - Finding verses with kindergartners + 1st graders:** Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show kids what the page looks like. Lead them to find John in the list under “New Testament.” You can help by telling them that John starts with the letters J-O. When kids find John, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find John. Help children find the page. When they find John, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 15. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 12 in chapter 15. Read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.
- Challenge kids to come up with some motions to do with the verse.

