

Best Friends Forever

Ages 4 - Kindergarten

Week #1

Love Matters Most

The Greatest Commandment

When Jesus started teaching, many of the people in the land believed Him and liked what He said, but some of the teachers of the rules didn't believe Jesus. People obeyed the teachers of the rules because they thought following the rules was the best way to please God. The teachers were very smart and they would ask Jesus hard questions to try and trick Him with His words. Jesus knew what they were trying to do, but He didn't let Himself fall for their tricks. One day one of the leaders asked Jesus, "What is the most important rule of them all?" These teachers loved their rules and they loved talking about them, even more than they loved helping people. Jesus answered him and said, "Love God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the most important thing. And the second is like the first: love people like you love yourself. When the people heard Jesus, they were amazed. Even the teachers of the rules couldn't believe how wise Jesus was.

MEMORY VERSE

**If I do not have God's love,
then I am only a noisy bell or a ringing cymbal.**

1 Corinthians 13:1 (paraphrase)

Application

How can we love like Jesus? It is not easy to do. Sometimes we get the words "like" and "love" confused. Love is a powerful word, but don't be like the teachers of the rules and treat it as just a word. Love is a feeling and an action. Yes, we must even love people who may not treat us nicely. Think about how much Jesus loves you even when you are acting unlovable. Just as your parents love you, they love you no matter what. Same with Jesus! He says that love matters most! God's love is the only thing that lasts. When you feel unloved or unlovable, picture Jesus in your mind. He loves you and He can turn your heart into a loving heart! Just ask! He is listening. Don't just say you love, prove you love!

