Read John 15:12

DAY 1

This month is all about friendship! Friendship is using your words and actions to show others you care. To have good friends, you need to be a good friend. And one BIG way to do that is by remembering that friends love each other.

That's why these words we read from Jesus today are so important. Jesus is commanding us to love one another.

Grab a piece of paper. Carefully tear off the edges, no more than about an inch on each side. Then wad the paper up to make it look like it's aged. Flatten out the page with your hand and write the words of this verse in the center. Roll up the top and bottom to the center to create scroll. At your next family meal, hold up your scroll, say 'Hear ye, hear ye" and then read the command inside!

Thank God for friendships and His command to love one another.

Read | Samuel 20:17

DAY Z

One of the best examples of friendship in the Bible is the story of David and Jonathan. Jonathan was King Saul's son. Usually the title of King is passed from father to son. But God had chosen David to be the next king.

Wait, who was chosen to be the next king? _____

That's right, David. NOT Jonathan. But Jonathan wasn't angry about that. In fact, David was his best friend. What does this verse tell us? That Jonathan loved David just as he loved ______. Even though Jonathan could have chosen jealousy, he chose love instead.

Is there someone in your world that you're angry with right now? Is there someone who bugs you or who you have a hard time getting along with? Ask God to help you choose words and actions that show love and friendship to that person this week.

Ask God to help you be a good friend, even when you don't feel like it.

FRIENDS
LOVE
ONE ANOTHER.

Read 1 John 4:19 DAY 3

What comes first?

 Socks or shoes? ______
 A or B? ______

 Shorts or underwear? ______
 3 or 2? _______

There's an order to things, right? You have to put your socks on before your shoes. And certainly your underwear isn't worn over your shorts! A comes before B and 2 before 3!

When it comes to loving others, there's an order too. The key to that order is found in this verse. Before we can really be a good friend and love others the right way, we need to know that we're loved FIRST. Who loves us? God! We can love others the right way, the BEST way, when we realize that God loves us.

His love is perfect. His love is unconditional.

And when you really understand just how big His love for you is, then you can love others too.

Look for opportunities to show love to your friends because God loves you.

Read Proverbs 17:17

This verse is a BIG one. Notice that it doesn't say a friend loves "when it's easy" or, "when I get my way" or, "when everyone is getting along." A friend loves at ALL times.

To help you remember to show friendship through your words and actions, we want you to create a backpack tag for each week's bottom line. Cut out the tag on the right, decorate it and cover it with tape on both sides. Punch a hole in the top, run ribbon or yarn through the hole and then loop it through your zipper on your backpack.

Know that you can be a friend who loves at all times with God's help.

DAY 4

FRIENDS LOVE ONE ANOTHER.