

FRIENDSHIP

USING YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS
TO SHOW OTHERS YOU CARE. WEEK 4
K-5TH GRADE

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

DAY 1



We've been learning all month about how to be a good friend. And this week, we're focusing on a big part of friendship—encouragement. You know what it means to encourage someone right? To encourage means to cheer someone or urge them on in with confidence. There are LOTS of ways you can encourage someone both with your actions and your words. Because friends encourage one another.

Grab a set of Jenga or building blocks. Write the words of today's verse on some of the blocks and stack them up for play. Grab a friend and play the game. Remember, the goal of the game is to try NOT to knock the structure down. As you play, give say some of the phrases below (or others that you come up with on your own) to encourage your friend.

"You've got this!"

"You can do it!"

"Way to go!"

"You are so awesome at this!"

Thank God for your friends that you can encourage.

Read Proverbs 15:1

DAY 2

According to this verse, what happens when you answer your friend in a gentle way, choosing kind words?

What happens when you choose mean words? _____

Remember, friendship is using WORDS and actions to show others you care. Your words mean something. And once you've said something, you cannot take it back! Choosing words that are helpful, gentle and kind, can protect your friendships. Mean or unkind words can ruin them. You have the opportunity to encourage your friends with the words you choose.

Completely scribble over the "mean phrases" below and write in new, kind words instead.

"Go away"

"We don't like you"

"You're weird"

"You're dumb"

"That's so lame"

"Get lost"

Ask God to help you think before you speak and choose kind words this week.

FRIENDS
ENCOURAGE
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Read Galatians 6:2

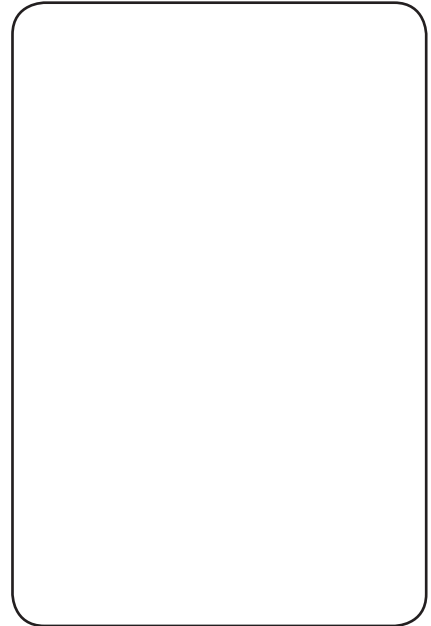
DAY 3

One BIG part of friendship is supporting a friend when he or she is sad. This is the part that we don't always think about but sometimes our friends really need our encouragement. Maybe they are struggling in math and failed their last test or other kids are being mean. Maybe a grandmother is sick and your friend is scared that she won't get better. The Bible tells us that one big way we can encourage our friends is by "carrying one another's heavy loads."

That doesn't mean you actually carry something around. It means that you think about them and pray for them. You don't have to fix the problem. You just need to remind them that you are there to listen and to offer a hug. Because friends encourage one another.

Can you think of a friend who is sad? Write their name to the right and ONE thing you can do this week to show that friend that you want to help carry his/ her heavy load.

Listen to your friend, offer a hug and a word of encouragement when he or she is sad.



Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

DAY 4

We've learned some SUPER important lessons this month about friendship.

Friends *love* each other.
Friends *accept* each other.
Friends *forgive* each other.
Friends *encourage* each other.

When you can show love and acceptance, offer forgiveness when it's needed and encouragement when someone is down, you will be the kind of friend that EVERYONE wants to have. Because friendship is about using your words and actions to show someone you care. After all, as today's verse reminds us, two really are better than one. We are made for friendship!

Since this our last week, let's create ONE more backpack tag. Cut out the tag on the right, decorate it with glitter or sequins or crazy neon colors 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 good friends encourage one another.

