

K-5TH

LARGE & SMALL GROUPS

MARCH 15TH, WEEK 3

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

### PRE-SERVICE

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GAME 15 MIN

### LARGE GROUP [33 MIN]

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OPENING GAME 10 MIN

WORSHIP 5 MIN

STORY VIDEO 13 MIN

BOTTOM LINE

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY

SALVATION MOMENT 5 MIN

### SMALL GROUP [30-35 min]

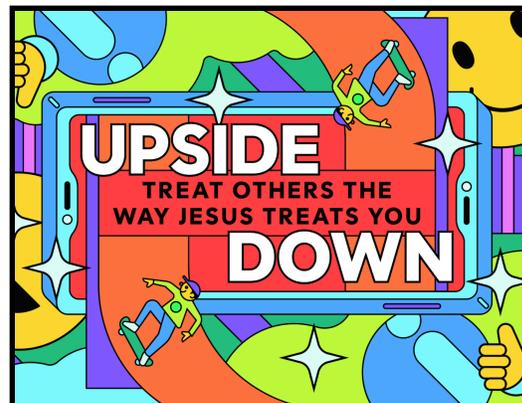
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APPLICATION 1 12 MIN

APPLICATION 2 12 MIN

CLOSING PRAYER 6 MIN

## THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

Be Humble/Love Your Enemies  
Matthew 5:38-48

### Bottom Line

Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

### Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.  
Philippians 2:3 NIV

Please make sure that children who were not here last week receive a memory verse card to take home so they can practice and memorize it throughout the week.

Please go over the memory verse with the class every Sunday.

## PRE-SERVICE Activity & Coloring Pages

What you need:

- “God Shows Us How to Love” Coloring Page
- “I Can Love Like Jesus” Wheel
  - Crayons & Markers
  - Fasteners
- “Memory Verse In Order” Hearts
- K-2 “I Love Jesus” Coloring Page, “Jesus Loves Me” Coloring Page,
- 3-5 “Jesus Love Challenge” Activity Page,
  - “Love Challenge” Hearts
  - Glue Sticks
  - Pom Poms
  - Sample

Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high five, fist bump, or a wave!

Have tables set up with activities before the kids arrive. Explain that they can choose to work on whatever they want and can move between the activities if they wish.

### “I Can Love Like Jesus” Wheel

Have kids color both pages of the wheel and then attach with fastener.

### “Memory Verse In Order” Hearts

Put envelopes (2) out for kids to take and find a spot to empty envelope and put the hearts with the verse in the right order.

### K-2 Coloring Pages

Jesus Loves Me Coloring Page, I Love Jesus coloring Page

### 3-5 “Jesus Love Challenge”

Decorate the word Jesus with crayons, markers or Pom Poms and glue, then choose hearts that show ways you would like to love like Jesus in your life or write your own.

## LARGE GROUP

### OPENER GAME

#### “Get Backwards”

What You Need:

- No Supplies Needed

**HOST:** *“Hey, everybody! Welcome back to another week of our series called ‘Upside Down!’ I’m so glad you’re here today. This month, we’re learning something HUGE—that following Jesus doesn’t always look the way the world expects. In fact, sometimes it feels backward ... opposite ... and totally upside down!”*

*“Think about it, there are times when the normal way to act is to get even, get angry, or only be kind to people who are kind to you. But Jesus doesn’t teach the ‘normal’ way. He teaches us a BETTER way ... a way that feels different, surprising, and yes, upside down.”*

*“And today’s game? It’s going to get us thinking in that upside-down, opposite kind of way. Because nothing in this game works the normal way! If you do what you think you should do ... you’ll be wrong. If you do the opposite ... you’ll win! Today’s game is called: Get Backwards!”*

**SLIDE:** Get Backwards! Title

“All right, here’s how it works. I’m going to give you super simple instructions. Stuff like ‘Sit!’ or ‘Clap!’ or ‘Walk!’ But in this game ... you must NOT do what I say. You have to do the opposite.”

“Let me give you an example. If I say, ‘Sit!’ ... you should stand up or stretch tall. If I say, ‘Freeze!’ ... you should move around quickly. If I say, ‘Walk!’ ... you should stand still. Got it?”

“Okay, everybody up on your feet with some space around you. Let’s warm up with a few practice rounds”.

**AUDIO:** Upbeat music

**Round 1** (Practice)

*“Ready? Clap!”*

Watch kids intentionally NOT clap. If needed, reiterate that they’re supposed to do the opposite of what you say.

*“Nice! Now, be angry!”*

Watch kids intentionally NOT be angry and instead act happy, sad, etc. If needed, reiterate that they’re supposed to do the opposite of what you say.

## WORSHIP

## STORY VIDEO

## SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

(CONT.)

## OPENER GAME (CONT.)

*“Perfect! You guys are already getting the hang of it.*

### **Round 2** (Game Begins)

*“Okay, now the challenge begins!*

*“Sit!”*

*“Walk forward!”*

*“Freeze!”*

*“Shout!”*

*“Whisper!”*

*“Be scared!”*

*“Be tired!”*

*“Stand still!”*

*“Great job, everyone! Okay, now let’s try a fast round ...”*

### **Round 3: Lightning Round**

*“Clap!”*

*“Sit!”*

*“Walk!”*

*“Freeze!”*

*“Be angry!”*

*“Be excited!”*

*“Stand!”*

*“Be sad!”*

*“Whisper!”*

*“Shout!”*

*“Whew! You all did awesome! Give yourselves a round of ... wait, don’t clap, give yourselves a round of opposite applause! Everyone give baby claps!”*

(CONT.)

## OPENER GAME (CONT.)

Pause while kids give baby claps.

*“You know, doing everything the opposite way feels weird, right? It feels backwards. It feels upside down. And honestly ... sometimes that’s what it feels like when we follow Jesus.”*

*“Jesus teaches us to do things that aren’t always easy—things that other people might not expect. And one of the hardest things Jesus tells us to do is to show love to people who aren’t kind to us. To choose kindness when someone makes us mad. To respond with love even when it feels like the total opposite of what we want to do.”*

*“That’s upside-down love, and it’s exactly what we’re going to learn about today! Okay, let’s take a look at our Bottom Line.”*

**SLIDE:** Bottom Line

*“Love like Jesus even when its hard! Let’s say that together, everyone!”*

**KIDS AND HOST:** [Bottom Line] *“Love like Jesus even when its hard!”*

*“Woohoo! Let’s learn what that means!”*

**Transition:** *Today, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is going to teach us a brand-new way to do something that can feel upside-down: how to love people who are unkind to us. Lets go listen!”*

## WORSHIP

## STORY VIDEO

## SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

## SMALL GROUP

### ACTIVITY 1

#### “Hula Hoop Pass”

##### What You Need

- Hula Hoop

#### What You Do

- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle, holding hands.
- Place a Hula Hoop over one pair of clasped hands.
- (If you have a larger group, feel free to make smaller groups and give each group a Hula Hoop. Groups of five work great!)
- Challenge the group to move the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of their friends’ hands. (The kids will have to step through the Hula Hoop and move their bodies to pass it along.)
- Cheer them on as they work together to get the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle.

#### What You Say

“You did it! That was a real challenge, but you worked together! Sometimes, being friends and loving each other can be a little tricky!”

[Transition] Today, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is going to teach us a brand-new way to do something that can feel upside-down: how to love people who are unkind to us. Lets go listen!”

## SMALL GROUP

### ACTIVITY 2

#### “Build a Rhythm”

##### What You Need

- No Supplies Needed

#### What You Do

- Encourage the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Explain that you are going to build a rhythm together.
- Start by doing one simple action, like clapping twice.
- The kid to your right is to repeat your action (clapping twice) and add their own simple action (like snapping once).
- The next kid in the circle is to do both actions in order (clapping twice, snapping once) and add a new one (like patting their knees twice).
- Continue around the group, with each kid repeating the whole pattern and adding one new move.
- See how long you can keep the pattern going!

#### What You Say

“That was amazing! It got really hard to remember the whole pattern! It can also be hard to remember to be kind when someone is not kind to us. Showing love to someone you don’t get along with feels upside-down. But that’s why it’s so important and so powerful. God loves everyone. When people see you choosing to love when it’s hard, they’ll know that you’re different. They’ll see that you’re a follower of Jesus.”

“Loving people who are hard to love is one of the most powerful ways that you can live like Jesus. It’s not always easy, but you can pray and ask God for help. When you began to follow Jesus, His Holy Spirit, Jesus’ very Spirit, who loves His enemies, moved inside of you. And He can help you so you can **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when its hard.**”

## SMALL GROUP

### PRAY AND DISMISS

What You Need

No Supplies Needed

### What To Do

- Say, *“Let’s take a minute to have a quiet talk with God. I want you to think about one person who is sometimes hard to love. You don’t have to say their name out loud. Just picture them in your mind.”*
- Give the kids a few moments of quiet.
- Say, *“Now, let’s ask God to help us love that person. You can just think the words in your heart.”*
- After another moment of quiet, close the time in prayer.

### What You Say

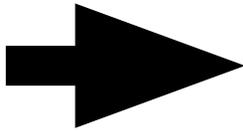
*“It can feel really hard to love people who are not kind to us. But Jesus told us to ‘pray for those who hurt you’ (Matthew 8:44 NIV). He gives us the strength to love even our enemies. And we can ask Him for help! Let’s finish praying.”*

### Prayer

*“Dear God, thank You for loving us. Please help us to love others the way You do, sending sun and rain on everyone. Give us Your strength so we can love like Jesus even when its hard. We need Your help! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

# GETTING READY

What You Need



## PRE-SERVICE

- “God Shows Us How to Love” Coloring Page
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## OPENER GAME

- No Supplies Needed

## SALVATION MOMENT

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

## APPLICATION 1

- Hula Hoops

## APPLICATION 2

- No Supplies Needed

## PRAY AND DISMISS

- No Supplies Needed