

Summertime

UNIT TWO

Some things that may help
a Bible

a large piece of paper,
crayons or felt markers

(option)
Props for a "show"
lemonade



LET'S BEGIN: We are invited to think about what it means to love God, ourselves, and our neighbor.



LET'S PRAY: Help us, God, to grow in our love for you so we can love ourselves and our neighbors. Amen.



LET'S CHECK IN: Each of us can offer: if we could have anyone in the world move in next door, who would it be? Who can each of us think of who was a "neighbor" to us today? (Made our life better.)



BIBLE STORY: LUKE 10: 25-37. The man knew the commandment: Love God, love yourself, love your neighbor. "Who IS my neighbor?" the man asked Jesus. So Jesus told a story: A robber beat up a man, stole his money and ran off. Three people saw the injured man. Two kept right on walking. One stopped, took the man to a safe place, and left money so he would receive care until he got well. Which of these persons was the neighbor? The man who had asked Jesus the question figured it out.

WONDERING TOGETHER: Why do we think we are told to love ourselves and then love our neighbor? How do we think we are to go about "loving ourselves?" Who are some people in our community we do not always see everyday yet we are called to love? (Homeless people? migrant workers, etc.)



LET'S CHOOSE: We can decide which activities to do.



THE BIG CIRCLE: On a large piece of paper, we can draw a circle. If this circle is our love for God, what are some of the things we do to show that love? (Probably go to church, pray, listen, try to do the right thing, etc.) Maybe we can draw a symbol for each of these on our circle. What are some things we do to "love ourselves?" (We could draw some symbols inside the circle to show things we do to take care of ourselves.) Then, also inside the circle we can add some symbols to show ways we love our neighbors.



MY TIME: What if we chose one day this summer for each of us to have "My Time." The rest of us would do whatever we could to make that person's time special (fix a favorite meal, make one-on-one time with a parent possible, create a space for that person to read, do an art project, engage in a sport, etc.) When each person has had their "My Time" we could share what was the best part for each of us and maybe schedule another round later in the summer.



ACT OUT THE STORY JESUS TOLD: We could take turns playing the different parts in the story Jesus told. Maybe we could produce our play and invite the neighbors to come see it. (We might even sell lemonade and give the money we make to a place that needs help: perhaps a homeless shelter or a safe house for women.)



OTHER NEIGHBORS: Who do we know that is shut-in, sick, or just lonely? Could we make cards to cheer them up and mail the cards?



PRAYING TOGETHER: Thank you, God, that you show us how to love you, ourselves, and our neighbors. Amen.



To Go
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