Friendship means using your words and actions to show others you care.





Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10



A Good Friend Is . . .

All month long we are talking about friendship which is using your words and actions to show others you care. Flip over this page and color the picture of the two friends. As you are doing this, think of all the things you like about your friends. Write or draw these things all around the picture. Try and fill up as much space as you can!

Know that God wants you to choose good friends!



Be A Good Friend

Grab a piece of paper and some crayons. At the top of the page rainbow-write the words **GOOD FRIEND**. Then, I want you to divide your paper into three different parts and write one word in each section: **SCHOOL**, **PLAYGROUND**, **NEIGHBORHOOD**. I want you to think of a way that you can be a good friend at **SCHOOL**, on the **PLAYGROUND** and in your **NEIGHBORHOOD** and draw a picture showing it.

Look for ways that you can be a good friend this week.

2

Two Are Better Than One

This week we learned all about friendship and how God wants us to have friends. **Ask an adult to help you look up Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.** These verses tell us that two people are better than one. They can help each other with everything. Can you think of something that is much better when you do it with someone else? Perhaps playing hideand-go-seek or Go Fish? We are not meant to do things alone all the time. Friends make life better! Take time to say the prayer below. After, invite someone to play a game with you.

Dear God, Thank You for the friends that I have in my life. Help me to be a great friend to them. Amen.

Look at God's creations all around you.



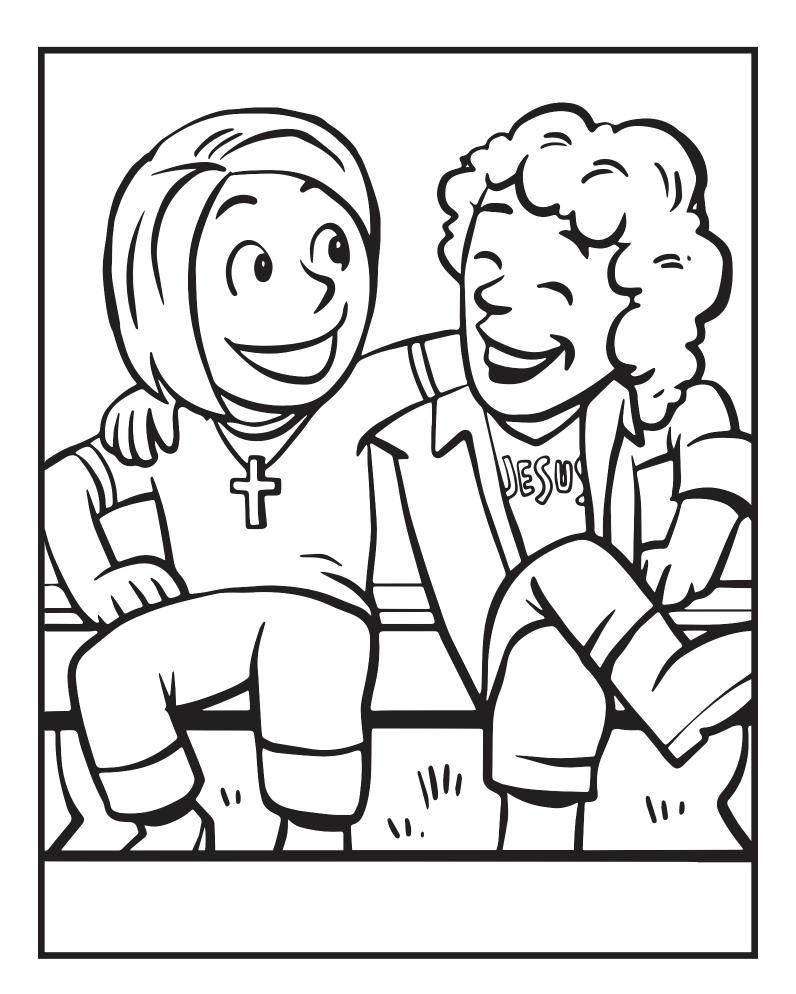
Attract Friends

Ask an adult to help you gather a balloon, some scrap paper, and a marker. Tear the paper up into tiny pieces and place it on a flat surface. Now have an adult blow up your balloon, tie it, and draw a smiley face on it. Rub the balloon on your head for about 30 seconds and then roll it over the tiny pieces of paper. **What happens?** The tiny pieces of paper (friends) are attracted to the balloon (YOU)! It's the same way with friendship. When we are a good friend to others, they are attracted to us and want to be our friend as well!

Ask God to help you attract the right kind of friends.



Choose you^r friends carefully.



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Stick It To 'Em



We are learning just how important our friends are this month. How can we show our friends that they are important to us? Grab three sticky notes and pencil. Come up with three different ways that you can show your friends they are important to you. Maybe you want to draw a picture for a friend, invite a friend over for cookies, or teach a friend a cool trick you learned. Now that you have these written down, think of the friend you want to these for and write their name on each sticky note, and do it this week.

Ask God to help you as you show your friends that they are important to you!



Love Always!

Ask an adult to help you look up Proverbs 17:17. Find a mirror or a window that you can write this verse on where you can see it every day. What does the verse mean when it says, "at all times?" Does this mean that we love our friends when we are happy? What does it mean when we are sad or upset with our friends? It means we love no matter what, at all times! We love them when things are good and when things are not so good. We would want them to do the same for us.

Know that God wants us to love our friends at all times, **just like He loves us!**



Take Time

Spending time with a friend and getting to know them is a way to show love to them. This week, spend time with a friend and "interview" them. Find out all their favorite things! Here is a list to get you started: favorite food, favorite animal, favorite color, favorite toy, favorite sport.

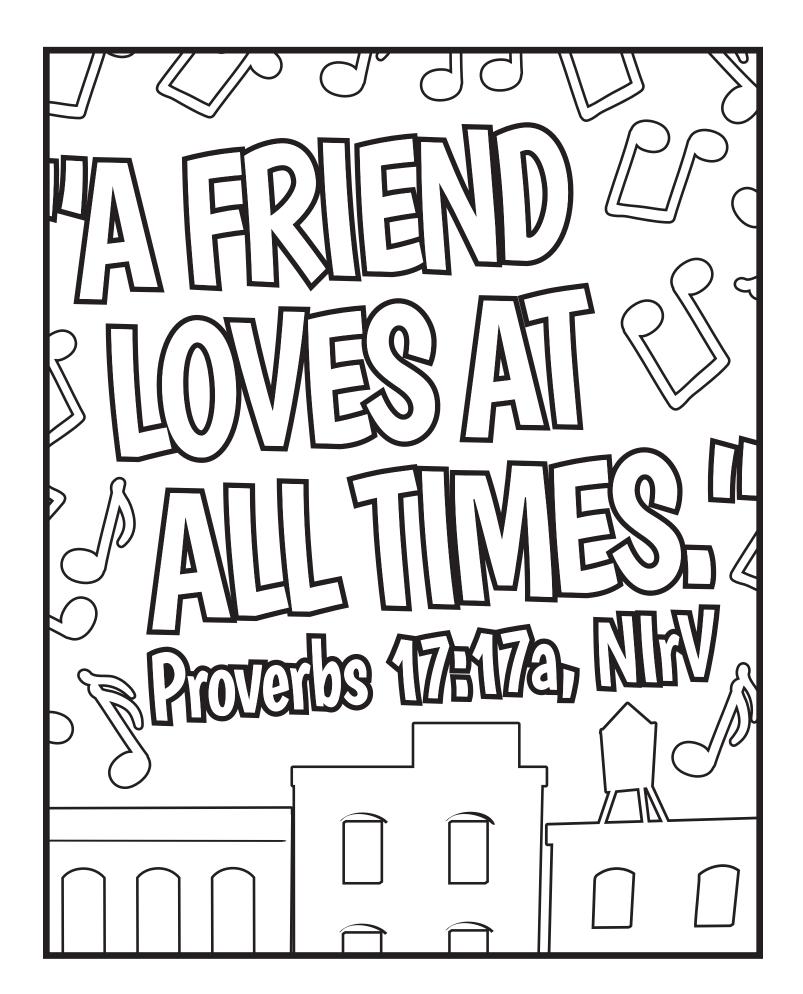
Look for ways to **show your friends that they** are important to you!



Best Friends

This week we learned about a special friendship that went together just as well. Do you remember who it was? David and ______. Did you know that they are the most famous friendship in the whole Bible? So when someone talks about David they also think about his best friend, Jonathan. That's pretty amazing. Do you have a friend in your life that is special like that? Maybe you consider them to be your best friend, just like David did! If so, write their name here: _____. Let's take a minute and pray for them because that's another way we can show our friends that they are important to us!

Dear God, Thank You for being such a good friend to us. And thank You for giving me an amazing friend like _____. I am very thankful for him/her. Help me to be a good friend to him/her. Amen.



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Build Up

Ask an adult to help you look up 1 Thessalonians 5:11 and for six plastic cups you can write on. Think of some encouraging words that you could say to a friend that would build them up. Ask an adult to write these words on the cups. Once you think of six different things to write, stack the cups in a pyramid shape. This could be three cups on the bottom, two on top of those, one on the very top. This is what it looks like when you use encouraging words, you build someone up! Ask God to help you be the kind of friend that encourages your friends.







Say Thanks

This week, we learned how Elisha and Elijah encouraged each other throughout their journey together. Have you ever thought about how you can do that for one of your friends? Take out a piece of paper and some crayons. You are going to create your very own thank you card. Choose a friend and tell them how much you appreciate him or her for being your friend. What a great way to encourage them and build them up just like we learned this week!

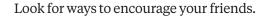
Dear God, Thanks so much for giving me amazing friends. Thank You specifically for _____. I pray that they will feel encouraged and important because of the note that I made for them this week. Amen.



I Choose You!

All this week we have been talking about different ways that we can encourage our friends and show them that they are important to us. Look at the list below and circle all the different ways that are encouraging a friend and building them up. Put an "x" through all of the ways that are not. Choose one of these things that you circled and do if for a friend this week.

Draw a picture for your friend
Ask your friend what they would like to play.
Ignore your friend when they wave to you.
Tell your friend that they aren't good at soccer.
Tell your friend that they are really smart.







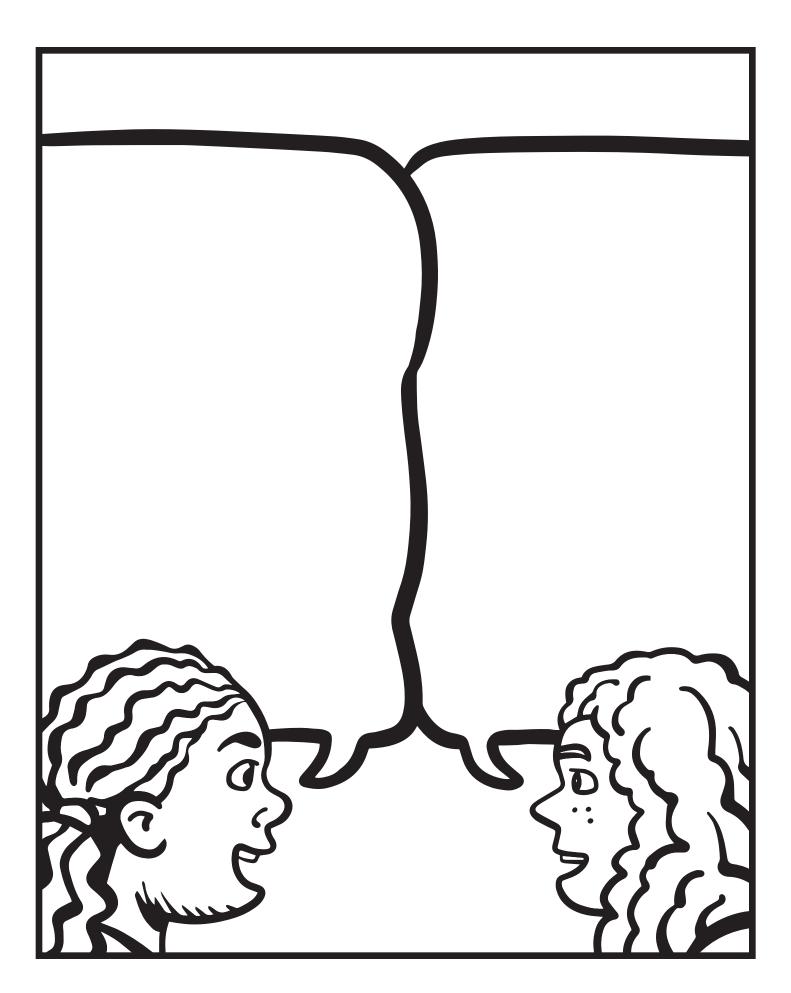
Just Call Me

Ask an adult if you could call a friend and tell them how cool it is to be their friend! Think of a time when the two you had a great time or laughed really hard at something. Share this or a favorite memory with them. Just let them know that you think they are great!

Know that God loves it when we encourage each other.







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Oh, Peter!

Have you ever said something and it hurt someone's feelings? That's exactly what Peter did in our Bible story this week. He messed up over and over again and ended up hurting one of his best friends, Jesus. The cool part of the story, though, is that Jesus showed us exactly how a friend should respond. He went and found Peter and forgave Him. What would you have done if you were Jesus? Can you think of a time when someone forgave you when you did something that hurt them? Turn this page over and see how many times you can find the phrase FRIENDS FORGIVE. **Know that** Jesus showed us how to forgive, even when we are hurt.





Ask an adult to help you look up Ephesians 4:32. This verse says to be kind one another and forgive one another. Why? Because Jesus forgave you! Can you think of a time when a friend hurt your feelings and you really didn't want to forgive them? Maybe they laughed at you or said something hurtful to you. It's really hard to forgive sometimes. The next time someone hurts you, forgive them and show them that you forgive them. Make them a friendship bracelet or paint a rock and tell them that their friendship rocks! Look for ways to show your friends that you forgive them.



Friends forgive another.



Forgive or Explode!

Forgiving someone can be very hard! When we don't forgive someone, we bottle up all our anger inside until we want to explode! Let's do a little experiment to show you what I mean. Ask an adult to help you follow these instructions:

- 1. Add 1/4 cup warm water to a plastic zip-top sandwich bag.
- 2. Next add 1/2 cup of vinegar to the same bag.
- 3. Measure out 3 tsp. of baking soda and dump that in the center of a tissue.
- 4. Fold up the tissue around the baking soda.
- 5. Drop the tissue into the bag and close it.
- 6. Step back.

The explosion of the vinegar and the baking soda shows what it can feel like on the inside of us when we don't forgive others. Ask God to help you forgive your friends when they have hurt you.



What Do You Know?

All month long we have been learning about FRI_NDS_IP. We L_VE each other. We ACCEPT one another. We FO_GIVE each other. We EN_ OURAG_ one another. Way to go! You guys are well on your way to being a great friend and choosing great friends!

Dear God, Thank You for showing us all we need to know about friendship. Help us to remember all that we learn and have the courage to be the kind of friend that You want us to be! Amen.











































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