

**WELCOME**

Welcome kids into the class. Ask them about their day, week, family, etc. Try to connect with each kid in some way.

**PRAY**

- A. Pray that the Lord would help your kids to have faith and understand what He wants to teach from the lesson.
- B. Ask the kids if they have anything that they want to thank God for or pray for.

**REVIEW**

- A. Who remembers what we talked about last week?
  - 1. We learned that Jesus is the Son of God and is the best leader! He is the cornerstone that holds up the house of God!

**INTRODUCTION**

This week we are going to learn about how the religious leaders were not happy with Jesus because of all the things he was saying and doing. They wanted to trap him. Lets see what they did and how Jesus responded.

**READ**

- A. Have the kids grab their Bibles if they are old enough to read
- B. Read Matthew 22:34-40

34Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. 35One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”37Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38This is the first and greatest commandment.39And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

**PRE-K MAIN IDEA**

“God wants us to love him with every part of us, and to love everyone else too!”

## EXPLAIN

- A. Jesus had just ridden into Jerusalem and went into the temple (God's house) and kicked out all the people because they were not taking care of it how God told them to, remember?
- B. The religious leaders were angry and asked Jesus "who gave you the power to do that? Who put you in charge?!" Do you remember what Jesus told them?
  - 1. He told them a story showing that he is God's son!
  - 2. He is the Cornerstone - the one who holds everything up!
- C. The religious leaders did not like this and wanted to find a way that they could arrest Jesus.
- D. They thought of a bunch of different ways to try and trap him. They asked all kinds of trick questions to try and get him to say something that was illegal or wrong so that they could arrest him.
- E. But Jesus is perfect and answered every single question perfectly!
- F. They finally thought of a question and they thought "oh, I'm sure this one will get him!"
- G. They asked "Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
  - 1. In the Old Testament (the first part of the Bible before Jesus) there was. Law that God gave the people that they had to follow. The Law was filled with tons of rules! The religious leaders and teachers were always talking about and trying to figure out which laws were more important than others.
- H. The leaders were trying to trick Jesus by asking a question they didn't think there was an answer to. But Jesus did have an answer!! He said to them "The greatest commandment is that you should love the Lord your God with all your heart, should, and mind!"
  - 1. Everyone say it and do the motions with me: Heart (hands in a heart shape), Soul (hands on the middle of your chest), Mind (hands on your head).
- I. Jesus then said that the second greatest command is to love your neighbor as yourself.
- J. Jesus said that ALLLL the other commands could fit into these two important commands.
- K. Lets look at the first one. What does it mean to love God with your heart, soul, and mind?
  - 1. It means that God wants us to love him with every single part of us. Your heart, soul, and mind are all the things that make up your whole self.
  - 2. Does he only want us to love him a little? No way! He wants us to love him all the way! He wants us to love him so much that we want to listen to and do the things he asks.
- L. Now lets look at the second one. God also wants us to show our love for Him by how we love our neighbor.
  - 1. Who knows what Jesus means when he says neighbor? Doe he just mean the person who lives next to you or the person sitting beside you? Jesus means everyone!
  - 2. He tells us to love our neighbor like we love ourselves.
    - a) We love ourselves a lot don't we? We always want the best thing for ourselves, and always take care of our selves, and always think about what we want right?
    - b) Jesus is saying that we should love others like that!
- M. Jesus didn't get tricked by the question of the religious leaders. Instead he answered their question and taught them and us a lesson.

## APPLICATION

- A. After reading and learning all that, what should we remember?
  - 1. Out of everything, the thing God wants the most is that we love God with every part of us - our heart (hands in the shape of a heart) our soul (hands on chest) and our mind (hands on head).
  - 2. And because we love God so much, we should also love everyone around us, as much as we love ourselves!

## MEMORY VERSE

- A. Matthew 22:37  
Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."
  - 1. Make up motions that will help them remember the verse
  - 2. Say it with them at least 3 times - each time in a different voice (Loud, quiet, deep, etc)

