

SPECIAL EDITION

Pastoring Your Kids



PLANNING YOUR WEEK:

1

Sunday

CHURCH TIME

2

Monday or Tuesday

BIBLE TIME

3

Thursday or Friday

FAMILY TIME

WEEK 12

AGAPE

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

MEMORY VERSE:

Matthew 5:44, "But I tell you: love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you."

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus commanded us to love our enemies.

2. BIBLE TIME

READ:

- John 15:12
- Matthew 5:44

MAIN POINT:

The way the world treats an enemy is to get revenge and to be mean back. Jesus tells us to do exactly the opposite! He wants us to walk in love with our enemies and to pray for them. If we do what Jesus says, He can help the situation and change the heart of our enemy.

DISCUSS:

- Most people have had an enemy at some point in their lives.
- It could be a bully at school or someone who makes fun of you for being a Christian.
- The Bible tells us to treat our enemies the opposite way the world does.

QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. Who do you consider an enemy?
2. Have you ever had an enemy you've had to deal with at school? What did you do?
3. Do you think it's hard to walk in love and pray for your enemies?
4. Have you ever prayed for an enemy and see them change? What happened?

3. FAMILY TIME

“Jesus VS. The World”

MAIN POINT:

As a family you will learn how God wants us to treat our enemies.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Index cards, markers, and a small treat

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each person a small stack of index cards and a marker.
- You're having an “Opposites” contest. The goal of the game is to see who can think of the most opposites in 5 minutes.
- Write the opposites on the index cards, one word on one side and the opposite of that word on the other side (parents help younger children write ideas).

- At the end of the 5 minutes, everyone count up how many opposite cards they made and read all of them together. The one with the most cards wins the treat!

DISCUSS:

- At the end of the game decide together as a family to keep strife out and keep love in.
- The Bible often tells us to do the opposite of what the world does.
- For example: to give instead of keep everything for yourself, prefer others instead of preferring yourself.
- One of the most important opposites Jesus taught is the way we treat our enemies. The world says to get revenge or to treat your enemy the way they've treated you. Jesus tells us to do the exact opposite – He says don't do back to them what they've done to you and to pray for them.
- When we involve God it will be exciting to see the “opposite” reaction you'll get from your enemies when God changes their heart.