



GLOSSARY

ASK: Ask a question that will help them to think about how this information makes a difference in the life.

SHARE: Talk about your own experience as a disciple of Jesus.

EXPLAIN: This is a piece of information that will help to explain the topic.

How Can I Be A Good Friend?

'A friend is always a friend, and relatives are born to share our troubles.'
Proverbs 17:17 (CEV)

NOTE FOR MENTOR: You might like to follow up this Little Chats by reading some stories from a children's Bible about friends. For example, David and Jonathon in 1 Samuel 20; The Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37 or Jesus and Zachaeus in Luke 19:1-10.

Chat

EXPLAIN: Everyone needs friends. It is good to have friends and to be a friend. Jesus said that the two most important rules are to love God with all your heart and love your neighbour (or friends) as yourself. We can feel God's love through the love of a friend. There are lots of stories in the bible about good friends that can help us learn about friendship. In the bible it tells us what makes a good friend and how to find and keep them.

SHARE: I have some good friends and I like them because Share about a couple of friends you have and what makes them good friends.

ASK: Can you think of some friends that you have and tell me why you like them?

Activity

Read the list of characteristics and decided which ones a good friend has. Ask the child to give you a 'high five' if it is a good thing and a 'thumbs down' if it's a bad thing for a friend to do.

- Share their things

- Say nice things to you
- Tell lies about you
- Help people
- Ignore you
- Use their manners
- Tell the truth
- Let's everybody play

EXPLAIN: Everybody likes to have friends and it is important to be a good friend. It isn't always easy to be a good friend and sometimes we might make a bad choice and do something that hurts or upsets a friend. It is important to say sorry when this happens.

SHARE: Friends can sometimes do things that we don't like. Share about a time when a friend may have let you down or acted badly and how this was resolved. (Make sure to keep this short and age appropriate)

ASK: Has a friend of yours ever said or done something that you didn't like?

ASK: How did you feel?

EXPLAIN: Jesus is our friend and he showed us how to be a good friend. When he was here on earth he was a friend to everyone - especially the people who didn't have any friends. When you are being a good friend you are showing the love of Jesus to others.

ASK: Can you think of some ways that you show the love of Jesus to your friends?

Activity

Think of someone that has been a good friend to you. Draw a picture for them to say 'Thank you for being a good friend' and give it to them.

Application

God made us to have people around who love and care for us. When you are being a good friend you are showing the love of Jesus to others. It isn't always easy and sometimes you might get it wrong or a friend might upset you. Jesus is always your friend and is ready to listen to you whenever you need.

Prayer

What would you like to talk to Jesus about?

What are you happy about?

Is there anything that is making you feel sad?

What can you thank Jesus for?

Is there anything that you are sorry about?

Is there something you would like Jesus to help you with?

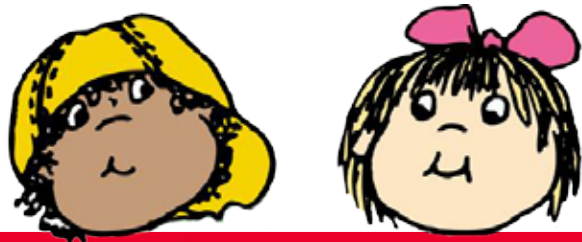
What would you like to pray for?

Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for the friends that I have. Please help me to be the best friend I can be to those around me. Help me to make good choices when I am with my friends. Thank you for giving me people who love and care for me. Amen

Journal

Draw or write some things you can do to be a good friend.



Tips for Using Little Chats

As children answer the questions they are voicing their thoughts to God. Remind them that Jesus hears our prayers. You don't need to ask all of the questions each time you use Little Chats but referring to a range each time will help children to learn about the breadth of prayer.

Use the suggested prayer or pray in your own words to model more formal prayer without minimising the importance of the informal prayer.

Remember to be aware of the teachable moments in everyday life, not just when using Little Chats, to have important conversations with children.

This resource provides a guideline for conversations. If children want to discuss things further keep the conversation going for as long as they are still interested.

Don't be afraid to tell a child that you don't know the answers to their questions. In these instance, offer to work together to learn the answer.

Little Chats - How Can I Be A Good Friend?

Activity

Draw or write some things you can do to be a good friend.

Prayer

Draw some pictures or write words to answer these questions:

What would you like to talk to Jesus about?

What are you happy about?

Is there anything that is making you feel sad?

What can you thank Jesus for?

Is there anything you are sorry about?

Is there something you would like Jesus to help you with?

Who would you like to pray for?

Dear God, Thank you for the friends that I have. Please help me to be the best friend I can be to those around me. Help me to make good choices when I am with my friends. Thank you for giving me people who love and care for me. Amens. Amen.