

Giving My Best

Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Mary as a woman who gave her best to Jesus.
- The children will learn the difference between doing their best and not doing their best.
- The children will decide one thing that they can do their best in this week.

Lesson Text

John 12:1-8, Mark 14:3-9

Scripture Memory Verse

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

John 15:12

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Dinner Plates

Welcome and Singing

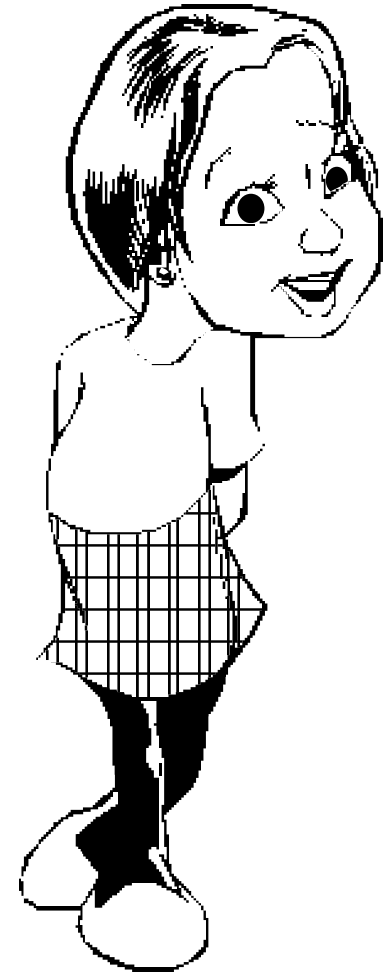
Centers:

Bible Story: Mary's Best

Life Application: My Best

Craft: My Alabaster Jar

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Pre
class

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Giving My Best

Dinner Plates

The children will make a dinner plate to be used during the Bible Story.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- 1 paper plate
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- magazines with pictures of food

Preparation

Cut pictures of food out of magazines.

Instructions

1. Give each child a paper plate and have them choose pictures of their favorite food and glue them onto the plate.
2. If they prefer, have the children draw a picture of their favorite meal on their plates.
3. Help the children write their names on their plates.
4. Give the plates to the Bible Story teacher.

Conclusion

Explain to the children that in the Bible Story they will hear about a time when Jesus ate a meal with some of his friends.

Teacher Tips

- Have the children glue their plates onto a piece of construction paper as a place mat.



Giving My Best

Mary's Best

The children will learn that Mary gave her best to Jesus because she loved him.

Lesson Text

John 12:1-8, Mark 14:3-9

Materials

For each child:

- dinner plates from the Preclass Activity

For the teacher:

- perfume
- a decorative ceramic or glass perfume type bottle
- Bible

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story.

Perfume

Have the children sit in a circle. Give each child their plate. Open the Bible and place it in your lap.

The Bible says that some of Jesus' friends wanted to have a dinner for him. Let's pretend we are all having dinner with Jesus. Does everyone have a dinner plate?

While Jesus was eating, a woman named Mary came to him. She was carrying a jar of perfume. It was a very expensive jar of perfume and the jar was probably very pretty like this one. Show the children the bottle. Do you know what Mary did with this perfume? She poured it on Jesus' head and feet. Then she got on her knees and she wiped Jesus' feet with her hair. Spray a bit of perfume in the air. We don't usually pour perfume on our feet and heads, but for Jesus, this was very special.

The perfume that Mary used was very expensive. It cost a lot of money. It was so expensive that she would have to work for a whole year to have enough money to buy the perfume.

Do you think that Mary liked this perfume? Yes! Maybe someone had given it to her as a gift or she had worked very hard to have enough money to buy it.

If the perfume was so expensive, why do you think she poured it on Jesus? Allow for responses. Yes, because she loved Jesus and she wanted him to feel special. She wanted to do something nice to thank Jesus for all the different ways that he had helped her and others. Do you have something special that you would be willing to give to Jesus to make him feel special?

Do you think that it was hard for Mary to share her perfume? Do you think that you would have wanted to keep it? Sometimes it is hard to share things that are expensive or special to us. What are some things that are hard for you to share? Allow responses.

Mary gave her best to Jesus. She wasn't like other people who weren't thankful for Jesus or who did not give him their best. She could have been like them but she chose to show Jesus how special he was by giving her very best.

How did Jesus feel about what she did for him? Did it make him feel special? Yes it encouraged him a lot. He said that what she did was so great that whenever people read the Bible they would learn about how generous she was.

Conclusion

What was the name of the woman who gave her best to Jesus? (Mary)

What did Mary give to Jesus? (very expensive perfume)

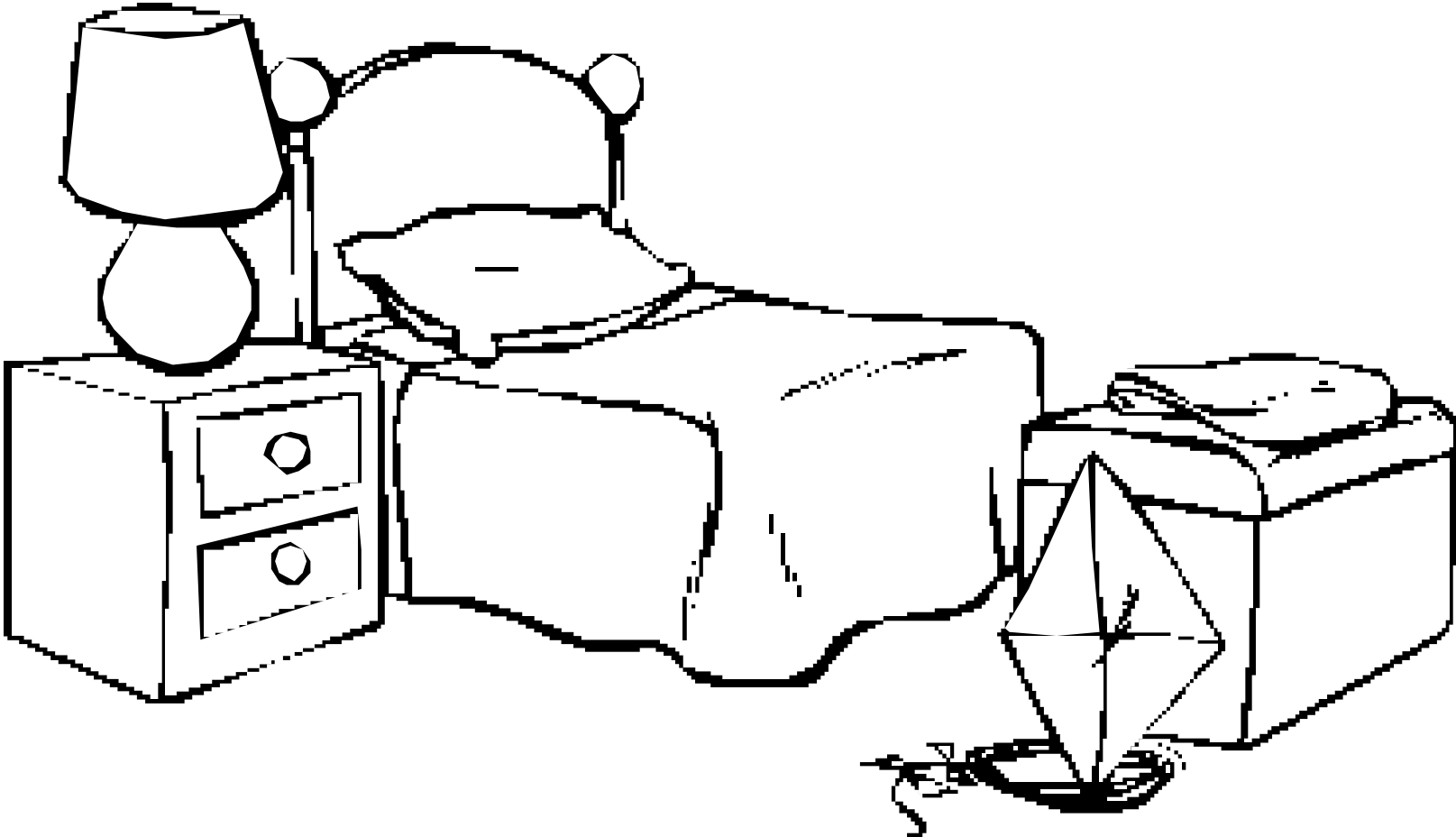
It makes Jesus very happy when we do our best for him. What kinds of things do you do for Jesus to show him that you love him? Allow responses. Do you give him your very best?

Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Be sure that none of the children have allergies to any perfumes you may use during this activity. Ask the parents at registration if their child has any intolerance or allergies to perfumes.
- Be careful to only spray a small amount of perfume. You'll be doing this in each center and you don't want the scent to get overpowering.



Giving My Best



Giving My Best

APPLICATION

My Best

The children will distinguish between doing their best and not doing their best.

Scripture Memory Verse

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."
John 15:12

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- markers or crayons

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out and color the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Pages A and B.
2. Glue each picture onto a piece of construction paper and cut out a border around it.
3. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

Instructions

Have the children sit in a circle. In our Bible Story we are learning about Mary who gave her best to Jesus by pouring expensive perfume on his head and feet.

Show the children the smiling picture of Chantal. This is Chantal. How do you think she feels? Yes, she looks happy so she probably feels happy too. Show them the picture of her frowning. How does she feel now? Yes, she looks unhappy, maybe angry or sad. Let's see what happened to make her frown.

Chantal was playing with blocks. When it was time for lunch her mother asked her to clean up and come and eat. But Chantal didn't listen to her mother. She wanted to keep playing and she didn't clean up. When her mother came in to get her, there were blocks everywhere. Show the picture of the blocks.

Do you think Chantal did her best? Show the sad picture of Chantal. No. You're right she did not do her best. Why do you think she did not do her best? (she wanted to keep playing, she didn't want to obey, she wasn't ready to have lunch).

If Chantal is going to do her best what should she do? (clean up right away) Show the picture of the blocks neatly stacked. Yes, she should clean up the blocks the first time her mother asks her. She should obey right away and she should do a great job cleaning. Does it look like she did a great job cleaning? Yes. Show the picture of Chantal smiling. How do you think Chantal feels now? Why do you think she is happy? Yes, because she did her best.

Is it always easy for us to do our best? No, sometimes it can be very hard. Sometimes, like Chantal, we want to do something else. Maybe we're tired and don't want to clean up. Maybe we're having too much fun and don't want to stop playing. But when we do our best how does it make us feel? Yes, happy. How does God feel? Yes, he feels happy too. He loves it when we do our best.

Scripture Memory Activity

One way that we can do our best is to love each other. Tell the children the Scripture Memory Verse. Discuss ways that Jesus loved his disciples (taught them, helped them, fed them, healed them, etc). Have the children repeat the verse with you a few times.

Conclusion

Talk to the children about doing their best for God at home and with their friends. Remind them to talk to their friends about why they are trying to do their best.

Have the children pray for their friends who they want to bring to class with them.

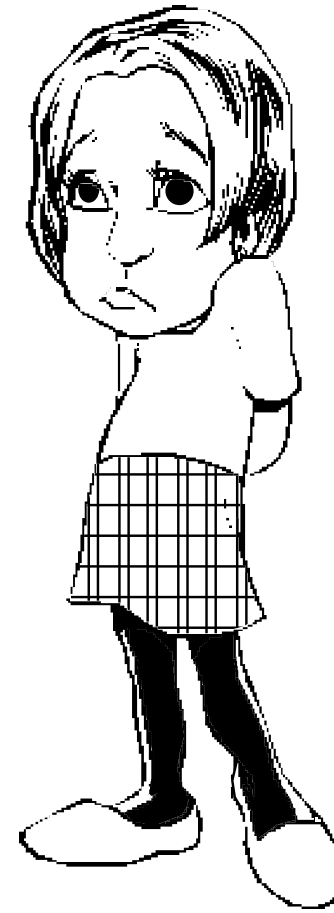
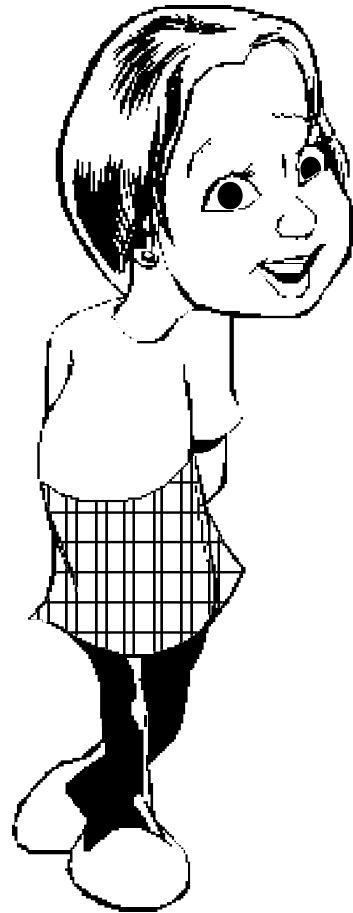
Teacher Tips

- If you have time, ask the children to tell you about times that they have done their best.



Giving My Best

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Giving My Best

My Alabaster Jar

The children will make a clay jar like Mary's to remind them to give their best as she did.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 small plastic bag

For the teacher:

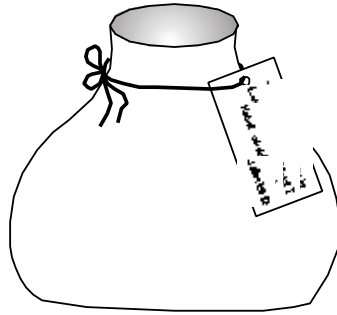
- hole punch
- flour
- salt
- bowl
- water
- measuring cup
- yarn
- scissors
- scented oils or perfumes

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for every 5 children

Preparation

1. The following recipe makes enough salt dough for five children. Make enough for your class:
 - A. Mix 2 cups of flour and 1 cup of salt in a bowl.
 - B. Slowly add one cup of water, mixing it thoroughly.
 - C. Knead the dough with your fingers for about five to seven minutes.
 - D. The dough should not stick to the table. If it does, sprinkle flour on the surface of the table.
 - E. Keep the dough covered or in a plastic bag until ready to use.
 - F. The dough will keep for about five days in a refrigerator.
2. Cut a 6" piece of yarn for each child.
3. Cut out the memory verses from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
4. Punch a hole in each memory verse.
5. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.



Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft. Explain to them that the Bible story is about a woman named Mary who loved Jesus so much that she poured a beautiful jar of very expensive perfume over Jesus' head and feet. She gave her very best for Jesus. Explain that they will make a jar to remind them of the jar that Mary had, and to remind them to give their very best to Jesus.
2. Give each child a handful of dough. Have them knead it and flatten it in front of them.
3. Have the children fold up the sides of the dough shaping it into a jar.
4. As the children are working, pour a few drops of the oil that they choose into their dough.
5. Give each child a memory verse and a piece of yarn. Have them thread the yarn through the hole and help them tie it onto their jars.
6. Have them put their finished jar into a plastic bag until they get home. Tell them to take it out at home and let it dry for a few days.
7. Have the children wash their hands well!

Conclusion

As the children work, remind them that Mary gave her best to Jesus and that it made him very happy.

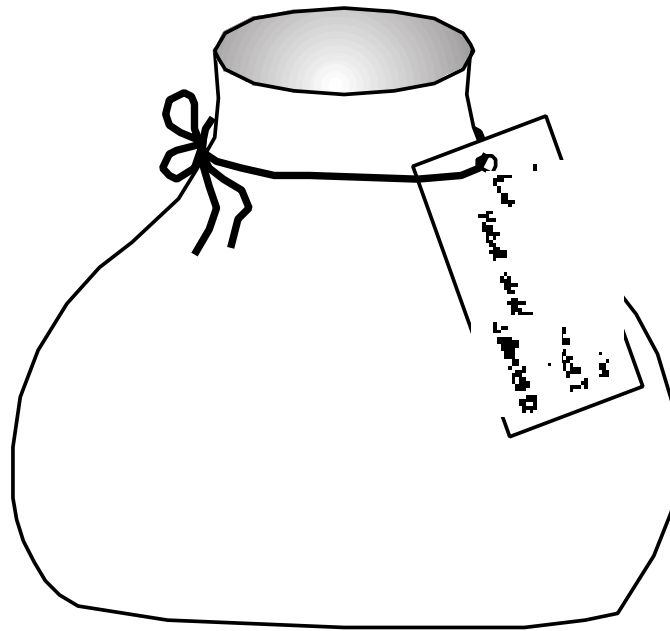
Teacher Tips

- To keep the work area clean, give each child a plastic tray to work on.
- The children may choose to roll their dough into a ball and then make a hole with their finger, pushing out the sides of the dough to form a jar.
- If it is difficult to find a place to tie the memory verse then have the child place it inside the jar or push the yarn into the dough.
- If washing facilities are not available in the classroom, be sure to bring in plenty of wet paper towels.
- This dough is very salty. Instruct the children not to touch their eyes before they have washed their hands.

CRAFT

Giving My Best

Serving
Lesson 1



Finished Craft



Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Mary as a woman who gave her best to Jesus.
- The children will learn the difference between doing your best and not doing your best.
- The children will decide one thing that they can do their best in this week.

Lesson Text

John 12:1-8, 14:3-9

Scripture Memory Verse

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."
John 15:12

Build Your Best

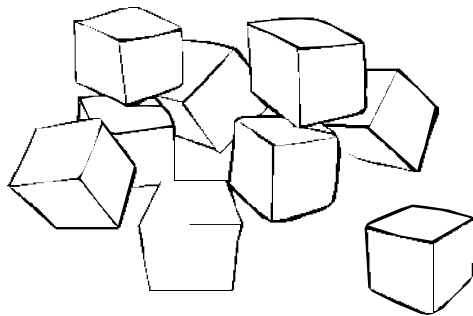
The children will practice doing their best.

Materials

- For the teacher:
- a set of blocks

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the activity.



Instructions

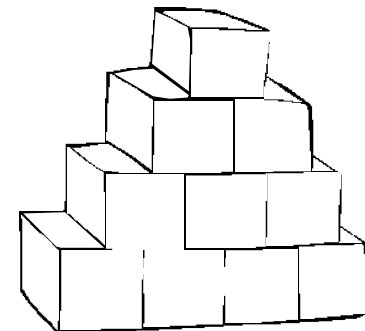
1. Have the children sit in a circle and give each child a block. Explain that the class is all about doing your best and that they are going to work together, doing their best, to build a tower.
2. Put a block on the floor and have the children put their blocks one on top of the other to build a tower.
3. Continue giving the children blocks to put on the tower until it falls over.
4. Do this a few times. As the children build each tower they will discover that if they do their best the tower will be taller than if they don't do their best.

Conclusion

Discuss with the children which towers they did their best on and which ones they didn't do their best on.

Teacher Tips

- If you have a lot of children, make two teams and have them build towers as a relay.



Giving My Best

Serving Lesson 1

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Build Your Best

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: My Best Dancing

Craft: The Best Badge

Life Application: My Best

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



My Best Dancing

The children will have fun working to do their best.

Materials

For the teacher:

- cassette player
- cassette of children's music



Preparation

1. Familiarize yourself with the activity.
2. Make sure that your cassette player works.



Instructions

1. Remind the children that the class today is about doing their best. Ask them if anyone remembers the name of the woman who gave her best to Jesus in the Bible story. (Mary) Explain that just as Mary gave Jesus her best by pouring expensive perfume on him, Jesus wants us to do our best too.
2. Play some music for the children. Explain that they will stand up and dance to the music but that when the music stops they must stop and hold very still, as if they are frozen. If they move after the music stops, they will have to sit down until the next game starts.
3. Have all of the children stand up.
4. Play some music and let the children dance.
5. Stop the music.
6. Watch for any children who are moving. If someone moves have them sit to the side.
7. Start the music again.
8. Continue until there is only one child left. Then begin again.



Conclusion

Praise the children for the good work that they are doing being so still. Remind them to do their best to stay still and not move.

Teacher Tips

- Keep the "freeze time" short so that the children can be successful.
- Keep the music low and have the children do "silent dancing," no voices, so that they do not disturb the other centers.



C R A F T

The Best Badge

The children will make a badge to encourage them to do their best in one thing this week.

Materials

- For each child:
- glue stick
 - crayons or markers
- For the teacher:
- construction paper
 - stickers
 - yarn
 - wide ribbon
 - scissors
 - hole punch
 - tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page E, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the circle stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page D.
2. Trace and cut out one circle for each child from construction paper.
3. Cut out the hearts from the copies of Reproducible Page E.
4. Cut two 5" pieces of ribbon for each child. Cut a notch in one end of each ribbon. See Figure A.
5. Cut a 30" piece of yarn for each child.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.



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Lesson 1

Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft. Remind the children that they are learning about doing their best. Ask them if they remember who gave her best to Jesus in the Bible Story. Remind them of Mary who gave Jesus her best by pouring very expensive perfume on him. Read to them what you are going to work your best in this week.
2. Give each child a heart.
3. Have each child draw on the heart a picture of what they will do their best in this week.
4. Write what they have drawn under their picture.
5. Give each child two ribbons. Have them tape the ribbons to the back of the heart. See Figure B.
6. Have them glue the heart onto the center of the circle.
7. Have the children decorate their badges with stickers and crayons.
8. Punch a hole at the top of each child's badge.
9. Give each child a ribbon to thread through the hole. Tie it around their neck.

Conclusion

Have each child share with the group what they are going to do their best in this week.

Teacher Tips

- Use cupcake liners in between the circles and the hearts to add a three dimensional look.
- Some children may have a hard time knowing one way they can do their best. Have another child help them or you can give them suggestions.



supplement

CRAFT

Giving My Best

Serving
Lesson 1

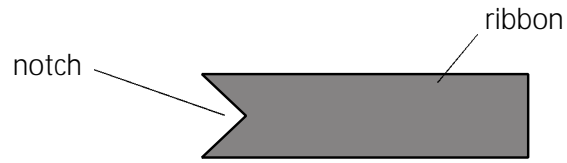


Figure A

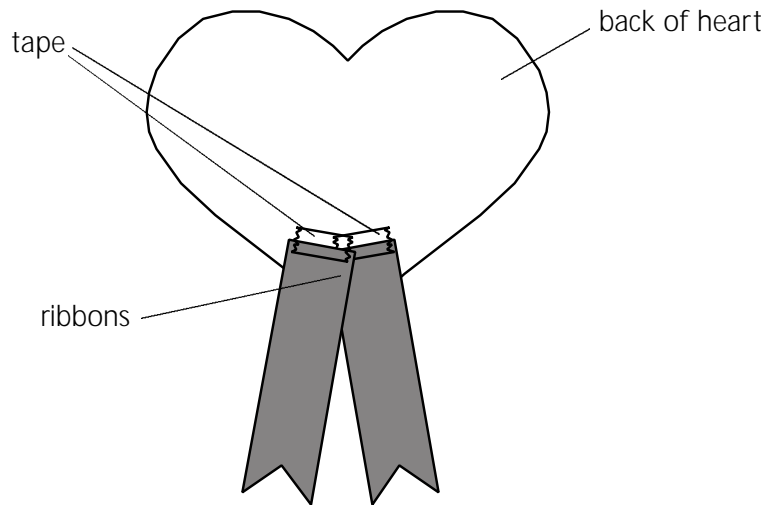


Figure B



Finished Craft





My Best

The children will distinguish between doing their best and not doing their best.

Scripture Memory Verse

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."
John 15:12

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- markers or crayons

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page F, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out and color the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Pages A and F.
2. Glue each picture onto a piece of construction paper and cut out a border around it.
3. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

Instructions

Have the children sit in a circle. In our Bible Story we are learning about Mary who gave her best to Jesus by pouring expensive perfume on his head and feet.

Show the children the smiling picture of Chantal. This is Chantal. How do you think she feels? Yes, she looks happy so she probably feels happy too. Show them the picture of her frowning. How does she feel now? Yes, she looks unhappy, maybe angry or sad. Let's see what happened to make her frown.

Chantal was playing outside. Her mother called to her and asked her to come inside and clean up her room. But Chantal didn't listen to her mother. She wanted to keep playing and she didn't come inside. Was she doing her best? No. Show the picture of the sad Chantal.

Giving My Best

Serving

Lesson 1

Then Chantal's mother came outside and asked her again to go upstairs and clean her room. This time Chantal listened but when she got to her room she started playing and didn't clean up. Was Chantal doing her best? No. Show the picture of the sad Chantal.

When her mother came in to get her the room was still a mess. Show the picture of the messy room. Did Chantal do her best? No. Show the sad picture. How should Chantal do her best? Yes, she should obey right away and do a great job cleaning her room.

Let's try the story again. Chantal was playing outside and her mother called her and asked her to come inside and clean up her room. Chantal listened to her mother. She came inside and cleaned her room. Show the picture of the clean room. How do you think Chantal felt? Show the happy Chantal picture. Yes, she felt very happy! She was proud of the great job she did. It made her feel good about herself that she tried hard and did her best.

It makes us very happy when we do our best. Is it always easy for us to do our best? No, sometimes it can be very hard. Sometimes, like Chantal, we want to do something else. Maybe we're tired and don't want to clean up. Maybe we're having too much fun and we don't want to stop playing. But when we do our best how does it make us feel? Yes, happy. How does God feel? Yes, he feels happy too. He loves it when we do our best.

Scripture Memory Activity

One way that we can do our best is to love each other. Tell the children the Scripture Memory Verse. Discuss ways that Jesus loved his disciples (taught them, helped them, fed them, healed them, etc). Have the children repeat the verse with you a few times.

Conclusion

Talk to the children about doing their best for God at home and with their friends. Remind them to talk to their friends about why they are trying to do their best.

Have the children pray for their friends who they want to bring to class with them.

Teacher Tips

- If you have time, ask the children to tell you about times that they have done their best.

supplement

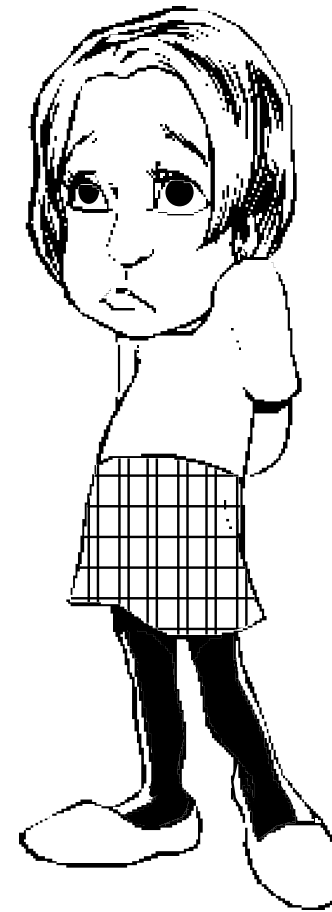
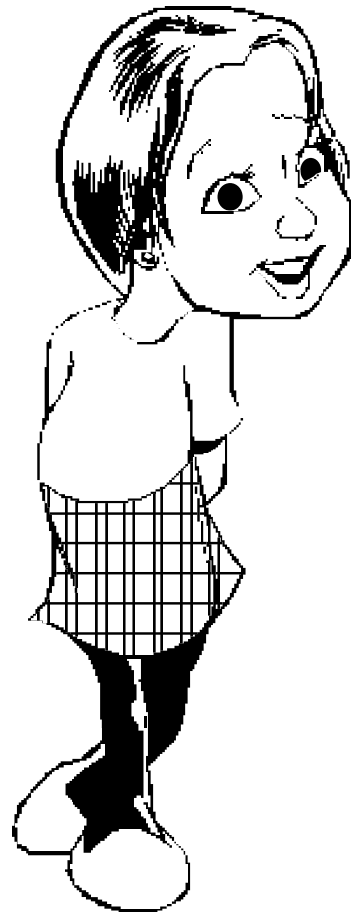
Life

APPLICATION

Giving My Best

Serving

Lesson 1



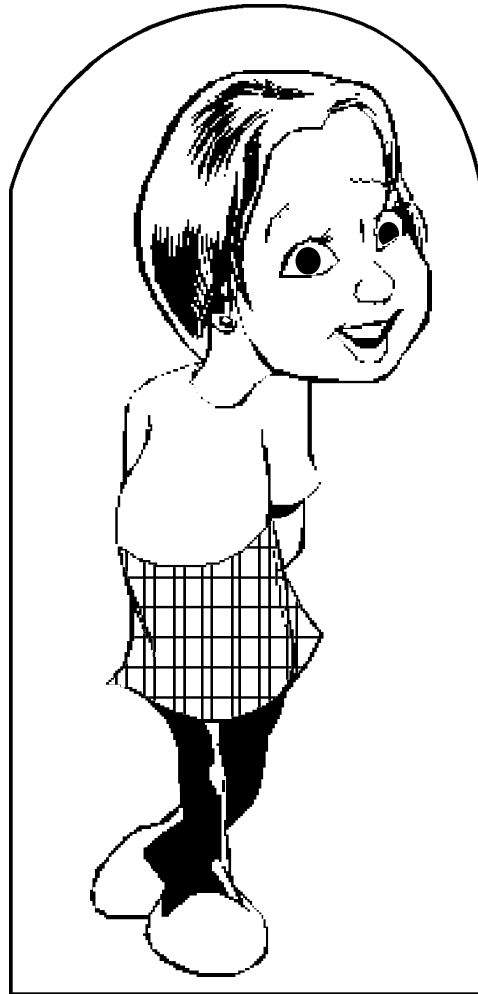
Winter 2

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Serving 15-1-14

Core and Supplement/Life Application
1 copy for the teacher

Serving
Lesson 1



Chantal happy

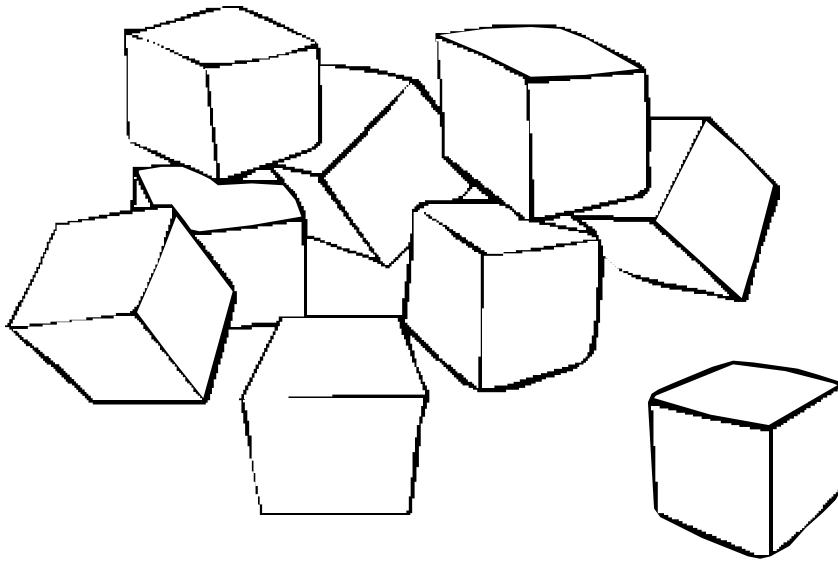


Chantal sad

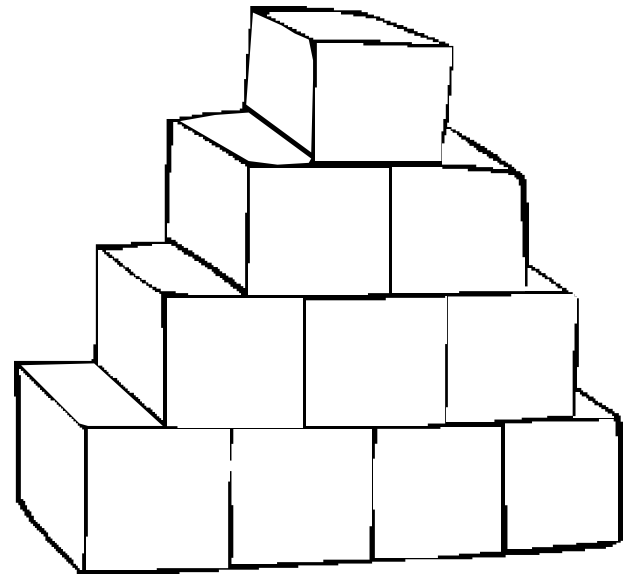
Core/Life Application
1 copy for the teacher

Serving
Lesson 1

messy blocks



neat blocks





Page

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Core/Craft
1 copy for every 5 children

Serving
Lesson 1

⊗ "My command is this:
Love each other as I
have loved you."
John 15:12

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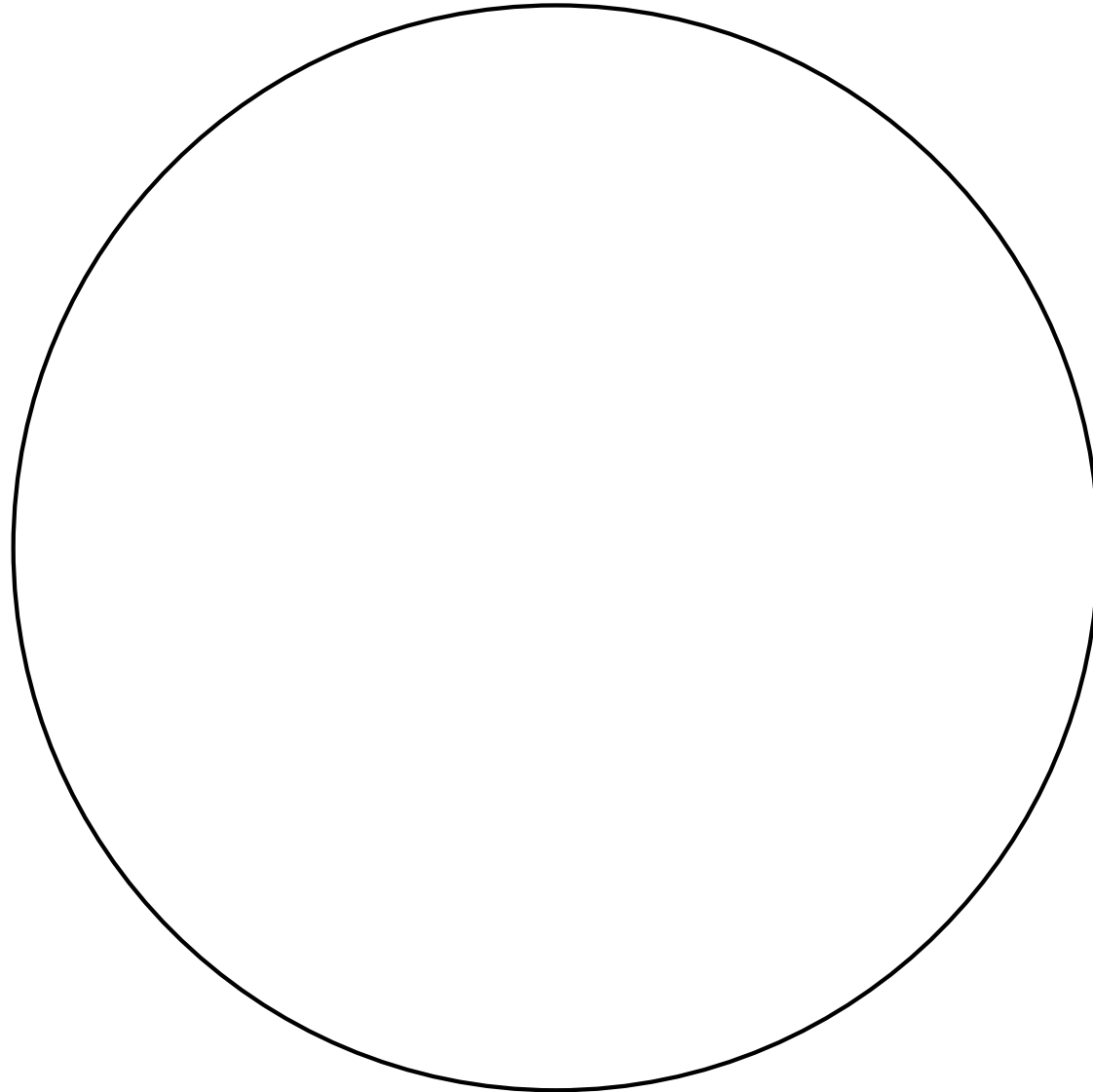
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John 15:12

Supplement/Craft
1 copy for the teacher

Serving
Lesson 1



circle stencil



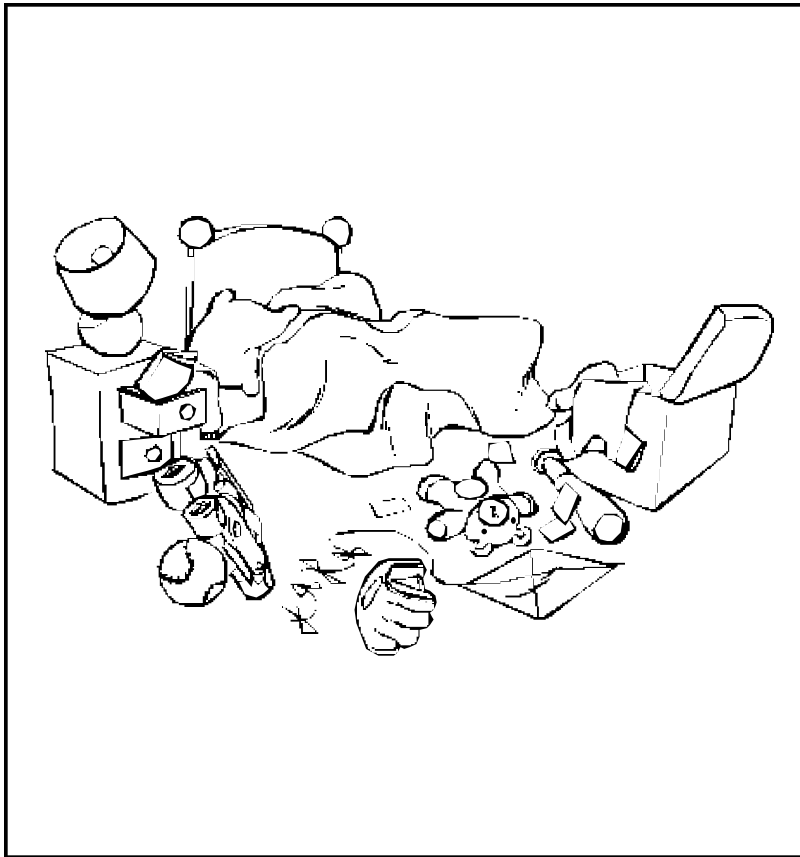
Supplement/Craft
1 copy for each child

Serving
Lesson 1

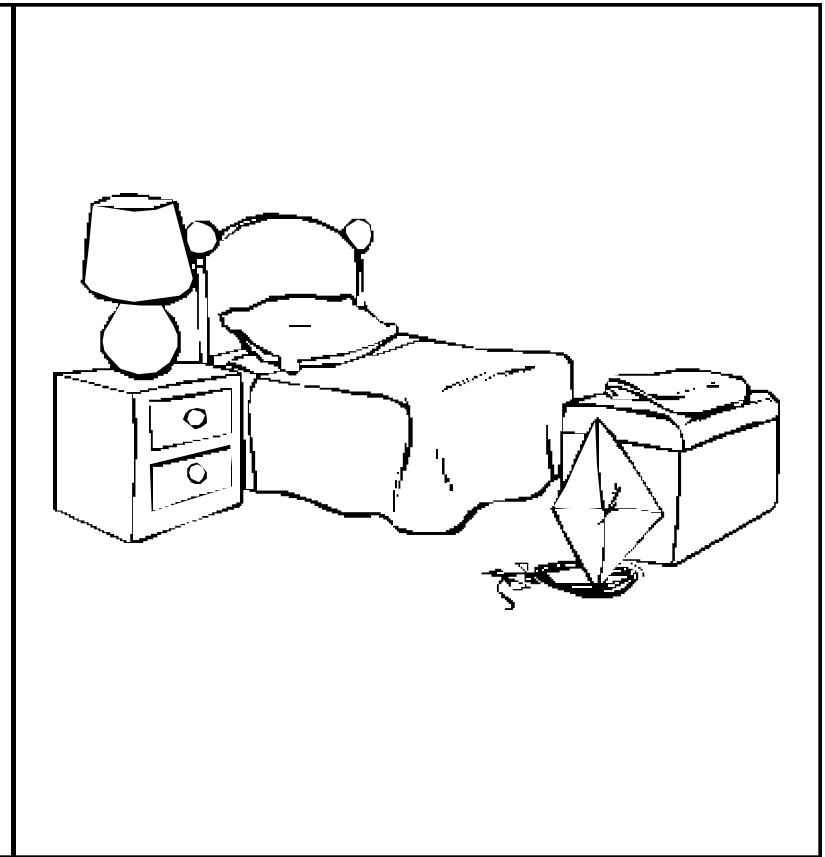


heart





"messy room"



"clean room"

