

## UNITY CHURCH OF OVERLAND PARK

# God Loves Me Always!

3's, 4's  
3/21/2009

**This Week's Theme:** *God's love for us is unconditional!*

**Teacher Insights:** This week's lesson will share the idea with the children that God's love for them is something that can never change. They will be introduced to the concept that God loves you always no matter what you say or do. The activities that we will have them participate in this Sunday will help them gain an understanding of how God loves each and every person. Each activity, song, story, and meditation will reinforce the idea that the children are precious and holy and that God loves them no matter what.

**Unity Principles:** (today's principle is highlighted)

- 1: **God is all Good and active in everything, everywhere.**
- 2: I am naturally good because God's Divinity is in me and in everyone.
- 3: I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.
- 4: Through affirmative prayer and meditation, I connect with God and bring out the good in my life.
- 5: Practice, Practice, Practice. I do and give my best by living the Truth I know! I make a difference!

## **Pre-session:** Children Puppets

**Greet Parents and Children.** As much as possible try to greet parents at the sign-in table.

- **At the Sign-in table ask:**
  - Please print names
  - Does your child have a **yellow registration form** filled out?
  - Any special needs that we should know about?

## **Pre-session Activity:** Children Puppets

**Materials:** Copies of Children figures, Crayons, Craft Sticks, Glue, Scissors  
As the children arrive, invite them to color the children figures and glue them to the craft sticks. The puppets will be used to help you tell the story!

# Sacred Circle: I am Loved

- **3 Ohms:** In order to synchronize our energies, have the children sit in a circle and begin sacred circle with 3 ohms.
- **Who is Jesus for us in Unity?** Our way-shower, the great master of love.
- **Affirmation:** God is loving me right now!
- **Introductions/Affirmations:** In turn, have each student stand say their name and a characteristic they bring to the classroom. For example, "I am Brandon and I bring peace to the circle today." All the children warm up their hands and put their hands in the prayer position, bow, and say, "Namaste' \_\_\_\_\_, you are \_\_\_\_\_!"  
*Namaste' means:* "The light in me sees the light in you."

**Heart Agreements:** Heart Agreements establish the boundaries of how everyone in the group agrees to "show up" in Sunday school. They are not being TOLD how they must show up; they are telling YOU how they have agreed to show up. During the course of the lesson, you may refer back to the Heart Agreements. For example, if a group of kids is perpetually talking while you are speaking, then you may say to the class as a whole, "What was our heart agreement about listening to speakers?" And let the kids tell you!

Our basic heart agreements are:

Gentle Hands  
Open Hearts  
Walking Feet  
Listening ears  
Kind Words

- **Love Offering:** Divine Love, Blesses and multiples, all that I have, all that I give and all that I receive. And I am joy-filled and grateful. FYI: students may place lots of things besides money in the love offering basket: joy, friendship, peace, love, etc.

**Song: God is Loving Me Right Now  
(Sung to Mary Had a Little Lamb)**

Track 4 on What a Wonderful World

**God is loving me right now,  
Me right now, Me right now!  
God is loving me right now  
Right here where I am!**

## **Affirmation:**

Our affirmation today is very similar to our song...but with something special added! Have the children repeat after you and follow the hand motions.

*God is loving me right now... Arms spread wide; then hands come down over heart.*

*...And so am I! Give yourself a hug.*

## **Meditation:**

Let's keep hugging ourselves for a few moments while we meditate. Let's take a slow deep breath in and feel God's love for us as we do. Then, as we let our breath slowly and quietly out, let's feel how much we love ourselves. Let's do that again... Take a deep breath in...God loves me...Let the breath out slowly... I love me. Repeat, inviting children to say "God loves me, I love me" with you as they breathe. Now let's keep breathing in and out as we hug ourselves... and feel the love. Pause in silence for 10-30 seconds, or as long as your group remains centered. Thank you, God, for love. Let's say that together: Thank you, God, for love. Amen.

## **Story time: Children Come to Jesus**

You will find today's story in the folders in your tubs. This is the story about Jesus telling the children that they are welcome to stay with him. The disciples do not want to have the children with them because they believe the noise will disrupt their teacher, but Jesus has the children stay with him and blesses each one. You can find the scripture in Mark 10: 13-16 if you would like to look at it before Sunday morning. We know that Jesus is our way shower and that he is the perfect example of how to let your Christ light shine. This story is an example of Jesus teaching that everyone is loved by God and everyone is welcome to learn and join in the teachings of Truth principles. You will also find the story box figures in your tubs to help you tell the story of Jesus and the children.

## Discussion Questions:

- What happened in the story?
- What did the children want to do?
- What did the disciples want the children to do?
- What did Jesus want the children to do?
- After Jesus spoke, what did he do?
- What do you think it is like to be blessed by God's love?
- What would that feel like?

## Creative Expressions:

### The Children Come to Jesus

**Materials:** Copies of Children figures, Crayons, Glue, Scissors, Poster board with picture of Jesus glued to it

The materials will be in your tubs. You will have the poster board ready for you in your rooms. Invite the children to continue to create the child figures that they did in the pre-session, but this time instead of gluing them to the craft sticks they will glue them to the poster board around the picture of Jesus.

### Story Box Play

If the children would like to they may also reenact the story of Jesus and the children with the story box figures that you used to help tell the story!

## Closing Prayer:

Let us pause for a moment in silence. We send thoughts of love to everyone in the world. Pause.

Father Mother God, thank you for your love in my life. I know that wherever I go you are. I am grateful for your sacred love in my life and I shine your light for all to see. Thank you, God! Amen.

## Teacher Reminders: Please HELP

- Return the teacher tub and all supplies to the Resource Room
- Sign out by writing the number of children you had on the Teacher Sign-In Sheet.

- At 11 put the sign-in sheets in your supply tubs.
- Put the love offering in the envelope in your tubs.
- Fill out the "Hums and Areas for Improvement" sheet found behind your curriculum in your tub. Leave the completed sheet in the tub for Brandon to collect after Sunday!