



The PathFinders Ministry seeks to connect children to Jesus and encourage them to grow in a faith rooted in these essential truths:

**We know that our true identity is found in Christ.
Romans 8:14-15**

**We have confidence in our access to the Holy Spirit and God the Father through faith in Jesus.
Hebrews 10:19-22**

**We trust that God is a good father who loves and responds to His children.
Matthew 7:7-11**

**We share the good news, knowing that Jesus is for everyone
Acts 1:8**

**Sunday, March 29
Weekly Overview**

Scripture: LOVE ONE ANOTHER JOHN 13:34-35

Bottom Line: ASK: Who can you follow? ANSWER: I can follow Jesus.

PathFinders Essential Truth: We trust that God is a good father who loves and responds to His children. Matthew 7:7-11

Big Idea: When I follow Jesus, I can love everyone.

PRESCHOOL

Lesson Discussion, Questions, and Prayer Time:

Materials Needed: One heart sticker, stamp, or paper heart cut out per child. A marker can also do the job. See *Parent Note below.

Discussion & Questions:

SAY: “Our Bible story today was about loving one another the way Jesus loves us. That’s a lot of love, because Jesus loves us A LOT!

1. How does Jesus show love to people?

(He loves people by forgiving, sharing, helping, and being kind.)

"Jesus loves us by being the best friend ever!"

2. How can we follow Jesus in the way he treats people?

“When we follow Jesus, we can love everyone the way Jesus loves us. That’s awesome! And tell me: [Who can you follow?](#)”

ANSWER: [“I can follow Jesus!”](#)

SAY: “You got it! You CAN follow Jesus! And we have been learning a Bible verse that will help us remember that Jesus wants us to follow Him.

Memory Verse:

CHILDREN AND PARENTS:

[“Come \(motion toward yourself with hand\) and follow me \(march\),”](#)

[Jesus said \(hands to mouth like yelling\),
Matthew 4:19.”](#) (Open hands like a book.)

PRESCHOOL

Wrap Up Activity:

SAY: “Great Job! I am going to give you a heart to help you remember to follow Jesus by loving people!

*Parent Note: (If you have a heart sticker or stamp you can put it on your child's hand. If not, you can cut a heart out of paper for them or use a marker to draw a heart on the back of their hand.)

Prayer Journal:

“Let’s write in our prayer journal and talk to God.

SAY:

“Today we are going to make a list of ways we can be a good friend and love people the way Jesus loves us. Sound good? (Pause.) Okay, when I say your name, tell me one way you can be a good friend and love people the way Jesus loves you. (Call each family member by name and write down what they say.)

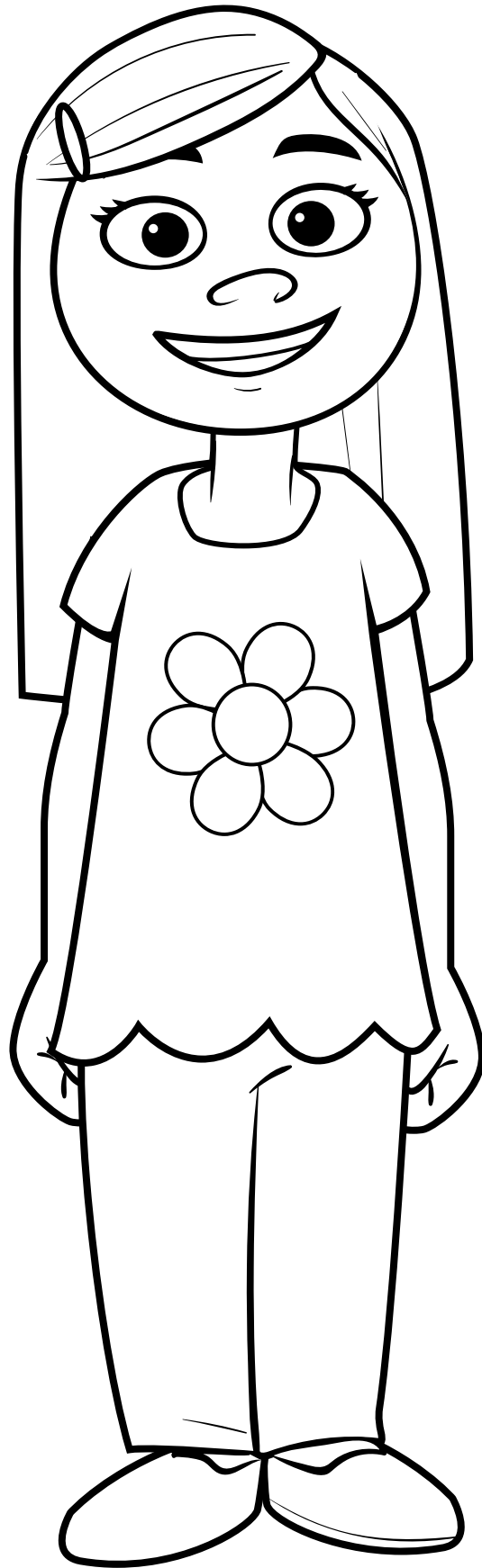
“This is such a great list! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

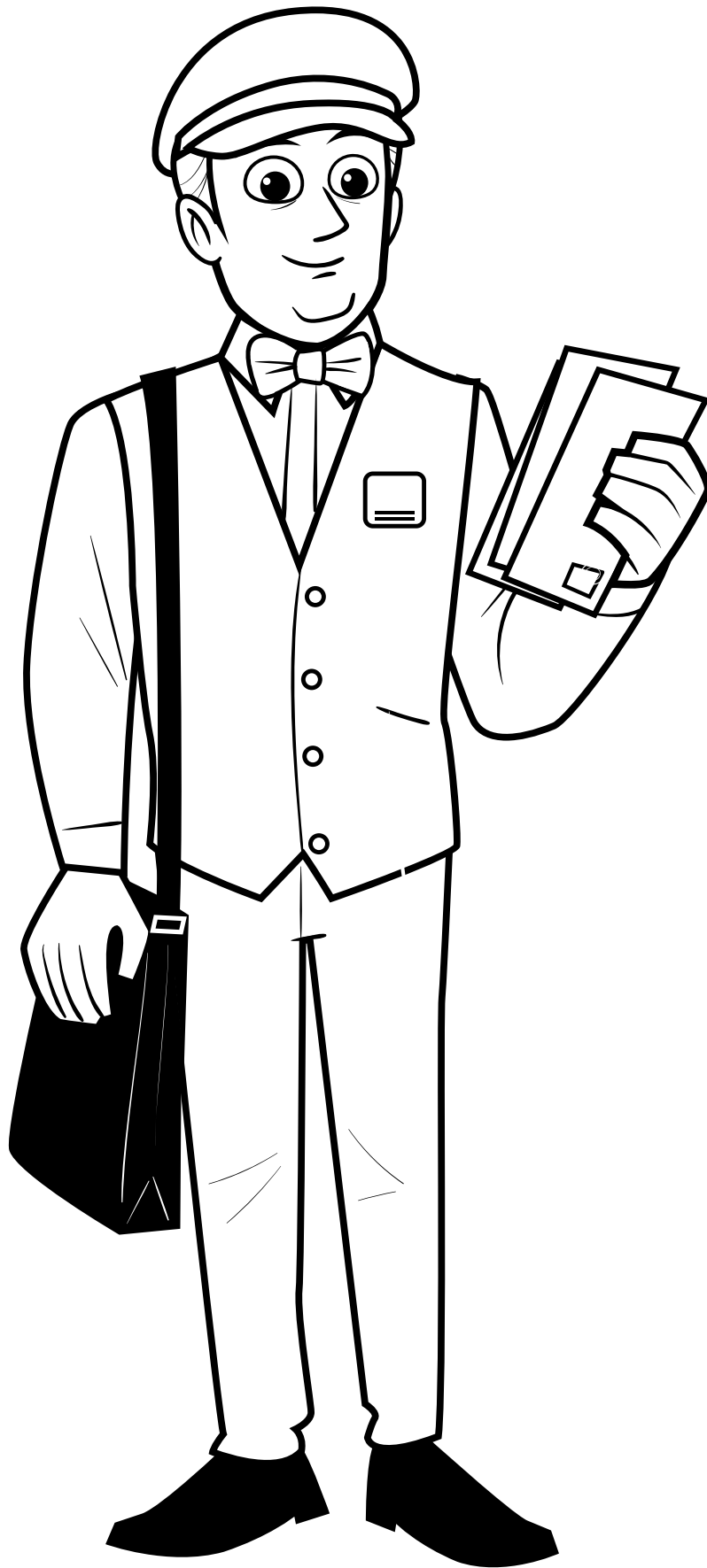
(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SAY: “Dear God, thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You that He loves us and shows us how to love others. Help us to (read the list your children made) so we can love everyone the way Jesus loves us. In Jesus’ name, amen.”







People to Love (3 of 4) • B&W • *Baskets of Love* • March Week 5
Copy on cardstock and cut on dotted line. One set per activity.



People to Love (4 of 4) • B&W • *Baskets of Love* • March Week 5

Copy on cardstock and cut on dotted line. One set per activity.

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WEEK FIVE
JOHN 13:34-35

Jesus tells us to love one another the way
He loves us so everyone will know we follow Him.



REMEMBER THIS:

“Come and follow me,
Jesus said.”
MATTHEW 4:19, NIrV



SAY THIS:

Who can you follow?
I CAN FOLLOW JESUS.



DO THIS:



Cuddle with your child this month and pray, “Dear God, we want to follow Jesus and love people the way He loves us, but sometimes it’s hard. Sometimes we don’t want to share or be kind or forgive. Please help us love people like Jesus, even when we don’t feel like it. We really do want to follow Jesus. We love You, God. In Jeus’ name, amen.”

BASIC TRUTH:

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

A SAFE PLACE TO LAND

By Sarah Bragg

My oldest daughter is 10, and for the past year and a half, she spends most of her free time at the farm. She has always had a great affinity for horses. When she isn’t riding, she’s working at the farm—cleaning stalls, catching horses in the field, or bathing them.

Normally, she’s all smiles after the farm. But recently, I arrived to pick her up, and as she sat down in the car, she broke down in tears. The work had been hard. She had to oil saddles for over two hours. It had to be redone and took up all her time—which meant no time to ride. I think it was a combination of exhaustion, disappointment, and embarrassment. Unmet expectations at any age can sometimes leave us in tears.

I normally don’t handle emotions well. I like to breeze right on past them with quick fixes. And often times, I’m running at full speed between work obligations and family needs. So I’m not usually in a place to sit still with their emotions. But for once, I was in a restful, ready place to meet her sadness with gentleness. Handling your child’s emotions isn’t easy, and it is most definitely exhausting and never convenient. But in that moment, she needed a safe place to land. No fixing. Just safety. Gentleness.

So, she sat in the seat beside me and cried. And I sat in the seat beside her and listened and offered empathy. And

then when we arrived home, I sat with her while she ate dinner late. And then instead of homework, we played a few rounds of the game, “Speed.”

That night as we said goodnight, I asked her the question I’ve been asking each night: **“What are you thankful for? What made you happy today?”** Her usual answer involved a horse, but this time she thought about it for a minute. And then she looked at me and said, “You.” It wasn’t a trite answer. It wasn’t a generic answer. I knew it was true. That night, I showed up. I gave her what she needed from me. I gave her a gentle place to land.

When we give our kids our presence, we are choosing to be a gentle place for them to land. Because here’s what I know to be true: You can’t multitask presence. You can’t be thinking about your agenda while trying to comfort a child. It never works well.

You can’t prevent your children from feeling disappointed, sad, embarrassed or exhausted; but you can show up in those moments and be fully present, and safe.



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