

Sunday School Home Activities - Week of June 7, 2020

Check out some of the activities you and your families can do at home this week!



Watch this week's Deep Blue Sunday School Video: Click the link below to

watch the Deep Blue Connects Summer 2020 videos. This week is Summer Episode 1 (E1: Communities Live Together).

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/series/unitedmethodistpublishinghouse/35799-deep-blue-connects-adventure-summer-2020>



Try this Family Devotion with your family!

Read: Communities Live Together (Matthew 7:12)

Bible Story Focus: Treat people the same way you want to be treated.

Wonder Together: How do you treat others the way you want to be treated?

Memory Verse: "Now faith, hope, and love remain – these three things – and the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Pray Together: Share joys and concerns, and then pray, Dear God, thank you for loving us with an amazing love that will never end. Help us to remember to share your love with other people. Amen.

Ages 5–Grade 2

Hear and See the Bible Story

SAY: Our Bible story is about a time when Jesus was teaching a crowd on a mountainside about how God wants people to live.

- Tell the children the story, "The Golden Rule" (*Read Matthew 7:12*). Refer to the Background for this Week's Bible Story at the end of the Sunday School activities.

SAY: This month we are learning what Jesus taught us about how to live with one another in community.

ASK: How do you treat others the way you want to be treated?

- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Summer Session 1 on [amplifymedia.com](https://my.amplifymedia.com).
- Act out the story. Take turns playing different roles.

PRAY: Dear God, we are so thankful for one another. Help us to remember to treat one another the way that we want to be treated. Amen.

Gold Art

Supplies: Construction paper, scissors, glue. Gather a variety of gold craft materials such as paper, ribbon, stickers, crayons, paint, etc.

- Give everyone a piece of construction paper.
- Invite everyone to create collages using the gold craft materials.
- Write Golden Rule Matthew 7:12 on the collage and hang where your family can see and remember.

What Would You Do? - Game

Label six pieces of paper with the numbers 1–6 and the words "A friend is...". On the back of each of piece of paper write one of the following scenarios: celebrating a birthday, feeling lonely, made a mistake, feeling sad, cleaning up big mess, doing something new. Hang the papers around the room with the numbers facing out.

- Invite each person to roll a numbered die, and then find the paper with the corresponding number.
- Read the scenario on the backside, then have the person share what he or she could do to follow the Golden Rule in that scenario.
- Continue to play in this way until everyone has had a turn to roll the die and share.

Blessing

SAY: We are going to share a blessing with each other. Blessings show how special you are to God.

- Go around the room and say the blessing to each person.

SAY: (Person's name), God loves you. God remembers you. God will always be with you.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for loving us and showing kindness to us. Help us practice the Golden Rule this week so others will see your love in us; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



Grades 3-5

Hear and See the Bible Story

SAY: Today, we're exploring a story in which Jesus taught the disciples about treating others the way that they wanted to be treated.

- Read the Bible story together (Matthew 7:12).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Summer Session 1 on amplifymedia.com.

SAY: Today, we learned about how Jesus taught the disciples to treat one another. Treating one another well is a way to show love.

ASK: How do you treat others the way you want to be treated?

PRAY: Dear God, help (person's name) treat others as (he/she) wants to be treated. Amen.

Rules - Discussion

Gather a markerboard and dry erase markers or a large sheet of paper and markers.

SAY: Jesus taught his disciples the Golden Rule to help them remember how to treat one another. This rule got passed down to us so that we would know how to treat one another as well.

ASK: What other rules can you think of?

- Let everyone call out rules, as many as they can. Write them down on the board or paper.

ASK: What are some reasons for having rules? What would life be like without these rules?

- Let everyone explore their ideas until discussion begins to slow down.

Do Unto - Game

Gather a bowl and scissors. Photocopy and cut out or write out the word cards and place them in the bowl.

SAY: Let's practice treating one another the way that we want to be treated.

- Have each person draw a card out of the bowl and act out the action they drew.
- Play until everyone has had a turn.

Random Acts of Kindness

SAY: Today, we are going to think of some ways to treat others well.

- Brainstorm ideas for random acts of kindness. Write them on paper.
- Have each person select one random act of kindness that he or she would like to do. If a someone needs help with how to carry out their random act of kindness, help him or her out with ideas.

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Summer 2020 Older Elementary Session 1

Welcome	Encourage
Compliment	Speak well of
Show kindness	Include
Be friendly	Be helpful
Show concern	Show interest
Share	Be understanding



Nursery, Toddlers and Preschool



Acts 4:32-37 Hear the Bible Story

SAY: People who believed in Jesus were called "Christians." They shared everything together. They took care of one another, lived close to one another, and worshipped God with one another.

SAY: No one said, "That's mine!" and took something away from a friend.

SAY: No one said, "I won't help you!" when someone was in need.

SAY: The Christians shared food. They shared money. They shared houses. The Christians shared everything!

SAY: People who believe in Jesus are asked to share everything they have with others.

Pretend Play Activity Center: Cooking

Gather pretend food, play cooking implements, play items to use for setting a table.

- Invite the children to pretend to cook a meal for your family.
- Encourage the children to set the table and to share the meal with everyone.

SAY: People who believe in Jesus share. One thing believers share is food.

ASK: Do you have a favorite food you like to share?

SAY: We can share food with our family and friends.



SAY: (Child's name), God loves you. God blesses you. God is always with you. Amen.

PRAY: Dear God, help us share everything we have. Amen.

Adapted from Deep Blue Nursery, Summer 2020 Session 1

Background for this Week's Elementary Ages Bible Story:

Today's Bible story is from a series of teachings Jesus preached that has come to be known as the Sermon on the Mount. Although presented as one long sermon, it is more likely these teachings were gathered from many different times that Jesus taught. In Matthew, the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount lists Jesus' teachings that we call the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12). The Beatitudes are also found in similar, though not identical form in the Gospel of Luke (Luke 6:20-23).

The Beatitudes provide instruction for how we are to live in order to be happy. The way Jesus teaches us to live is sometimes different than how the world tells us to live. This was true for Jesus' followers who heard the Beatitudes originally, and it is true for us today. God calls us to depend on and obey God, be humble, be merciful, be pure of heart, and to be peacemakers even when the world tries to get us to do otherwise.

In a world where fighting and war are often front-page news, Jesus' teaching to be a peacemaker seems especially contrary to society's teaching. The references to peace are frequent in Jesus' teachings, so it is not surprising that peace is mentioned in the Beatitudes. Notice that Jesus' followers are not simply instructed to live in peace, but to be makers of peace. We have a calling to be advocates for peace, to do what we can to make peace a reality. When we live in peace, we are following Jesus' teaching.

Children may feel that they have a limited ability to be peacemakers. Help them understand they can work for peace by modeling peace in their interactions with others. This may be as simple (or as difficult) as living peaceably with their sibling.

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Summer 2020 Early Elementary Session 1

Family Activities for All Ages:

Resources for Talking about Race and Racism with Children:

- The info graphic was created by Children Community School. Click this link to learn more: <http://www.childrencommunityschool.org/social-justice-resources/>
- Christine Hides, UMC Deacon and Christian Educator, shares several helpful resources on her blog, Bless Each One. https://christinehides.com/2020/06/01/talking-about-race-and-racism-with-children/?fbclid=IwAR37seW5cd7ts5kvgRR4S71CY93TV_UJZOy3vTwRBsF5oH2Z4zPU9a_uA
- Deep Blue Life: Faith and Culture is designed to teach children about empathy, culture, race, and prejudice. This resource includes three sessions titled "Prejudice and Stereotypes," "Curiosity and Empathy," and "Colors and Cultures." Cokesbury is making this resource available for free at this link: <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources/church-at-home/deep-blue-life-faith-and-culture>
- Wendy Claire Barrie, author of Faith at Home shares this resource - <https://wendyclairebarrie.com/2017/08/23/talking-with-our-children-about-race/?fbclid=IwAR3bOPPHDDAQ1Bm7Xl5BVbB5UjBKHM0GofNf337dsbZQ314cPMxaaW5Kpqc>
- Parent Toolkit shares this article previously published June 2019. https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/social-awareness/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-race-and-racism?fbclid=IwAR1NotKm_YggylkLUG5hKjgOYPTe3-18xa4gUSKtEbqA1t4hYM6PpDRJmYM
- Sabbath:** In worship over the last few weeks we have been exploring biblical Jubilee, the sabbath of all sabbaths. Sabbath involves both observing and remembering. Set aside time this week for sabbath. Observe and remember that God is with us and is the source of all that we have and all that we are. Learn more here - <https://faithumchurch.wordpress.com/2020/05/09/jubilee-and-sabbath/>. Set aside time this week to feast and celebrate. Devote this time to being together with your family, calling friends you miss being with or spend some time in nature noticing God's amazing creation.
- Look for God Sightings**, looking for our good God in the world! Share the God Sightings you find with us. <https://www.myfaithunited.org/god-sightings-looking-for-hope-during-the-pandemic/>
- Send a card to 3 people this week to let them know you are thinking of them and praying for them.
- Pray the LORD'S PRAYER** each day at noon. Create a video of your family praying the Lord's Prayer that we could share as encouragement for others. Let me know if you are interested!
- Participate in a church-wide Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Mosaic Coloring Project!** We are looking for 5 more persons to participate in a church-wide Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Mosaic Coloring Project. Let Kathy know if you are interested! This is a fun way to participate in a church activity together, even though we are physically apart!
- Use, individually or as a family, the worship and devotional resources you will receive connected with Sunday's video worship service and Wednesday Night Faith Connections and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-by-wire/>

