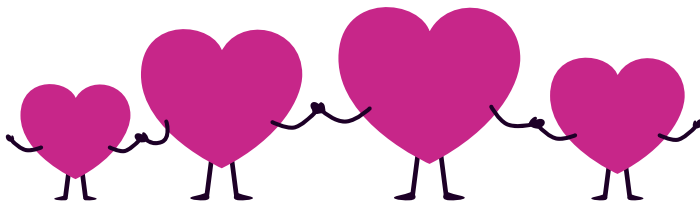




SHOW YOUR LOVE





OPENING PRAYER (2 mins):

Choose one family member to open your time in prayer.

FAMILY CHECK-IN (5-10mins):

What's needed? A bag of Skittles or colorful candy pieces of your choice. Choose one family member to give each member five pieces of candy. Once every family member has their candy, tell them to sort them out by color. Starting with the youngest family member, one-by-one allow each family member to respond to the following prompts:

- Green - Use a funny word to describe your day
- Red - Dream vacation destination
- Yellow - Describe a favorite family memory
- Purple - Talk about a fun activity the family does together
- Orange - Share something that worries you

Feel free to enjoy your snacks once you've shared.

SCRIPTURE (5-10mins):

Allow different family members to read a verse.

¹³ Jesus heard what had happened to John. He wanted to be alone. So he went in a boat to a quiet place. The crowds heard about this. They followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When Jesus came ashore, he saw a large crowd. He felt deep concern for them. He healed their sick people. ¹⁵ When it was almost evening, the disciples came to him. "There is nothing here," they said. "It's already getting late. Send the crowds away. They can go and buy some food in the villages." ¹⁶ Jesus replied, "They don't need to go away. You give them something to eat." ¹⁷ "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. ¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," he said. ¹⁹ Then Jesus directed the people to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke the loaves into pieces. Then he gave them to the disciples. And the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰ All of them ate and were satisfied. The disciples picked up 12 baskets of leftover pieces. ²¹ The number of men who ate was about 5,000. Women and children also ate.

- Matthew 14:13-21 (NirV)

SUPPORTING:

The story found in Matthew 14 provides readers with an opportunity to see Jesus's miraculous side and humane side. Moved by the cries of the people, Jesus takes a moment to address their needs. He healed their sick and fed the entire crowd through a miracle that only he could do. Even after seeking alone time to recover from an emotionally stressful moment, Jesus prioritizing the needs of others is an excellent example of what it means to show love to those in need. Let's use His example as motivation for us to show our love and genuine concern, for those in need.

FAMILY CONVERSATION (10-15 mins)

As a family, how can we meet the NEEDS of a family in NEED? We all have responsibilities but let's explore some creative ways we can support someone in need.

- Random Acts of Kindness - Pay for the meal of someone behind you.
- Donate - Donate gently used toys and clothes instead of disposing of them.
- Making Cards for an Elderly Family Member
- Volunteer with a company providing food
- Taking the trash cans to the curb for a single mom or elderly neighbor
- Cutting the grass of an elderly neighbor
- Cover Someone's Groceries - Pay for the groceries of a family in the store

TAKE AWAY:

Follow Through... Now that you've discussed what to do, DO IT! As a family, decide what task you will do and when. For some families, it will be possible to do multiple tasks. Other families will only be able to do one task at a time. Just remember how important it is for us to "Show Our Love."

CLOSING FAMILY PRAYER:

"Heavenly Father, we are appreciative of your love, your patience and your sacrifice for our lives. Help us to be intentional about meeting the needs of those who are in need. In addition to taking care of some practical things this family needs, help us to remember to consistently pray for them... In Jesus name we pray, Amen."

"Lord, I thank you for the life you've given me and for how you have wired me! Help me to better understand my wiring, so that I can better understand my purpose here on this earth. I love you and thank you for my family and friends. In Jesus' name we pray... Amen!"