

Friendship means using your words and actions to show others you care.

DAY 1

Read Proverbs 17:17

Are you learning about verbs at school? Verbs are action words. So, here's a little exercise. Circle the action words in the sentences below.

- Sam runs around his town for exercise.
- Destiny loves to dance.
- Celia helps her mom with dinner.

Did you underline runs, dance, and helps? Great job—you found all the verbs. Now take a look at the first sentence from your verse today. What is the action word? _____

Yes, a friend loves. The verb or action is love. Friends choose to love. When the friend is sad, when the friend is quiet, when the friend is talking a lot and when the friend wants to play a game you really dislike. Friends love. It's what friends do. You can show love as you play, as you listen, as you dance, and as you get a job done.

What are some ways you can show love to your friends this week? Write down three specific ideas in the space below.

Ask God to help you follow through to show love to your friends in the specific ways you've written down. And also, spend some time thanking God for loving you, always.

DAY 2

Read 1 Peter 4:8

Do you know what the word “deeply” means? To love one another deeply simply means to do so with purpose. So, another cool way to say it is that friends should love one another on purpose. Why? Because love erases wrongs. We all mess up sometimes. But when we choose to love others on purpose, it helps us to forgive and move on.

Find a dry erase board and marker or ask an adult if you can write on a mirror with a washable marker. Write out the words of today's verse and read it aloud. Then, erase one word and repeat the verse again, including the missing word. Continue in the same way, erasing one word at a time and repeating the verse until you can recite it from memory.

Thank God for loving you on purpose and for erasing all your sins or mess ups. Ask Him to help you be a good friend by loving others around you too.

Friends love one another.

DAY 3

Read 1 John 4:7

How can you show your friends that you love and follow God?

The answer is simple: friends love one another. Why? Because love comes from God. In fact, God IS love. You cannot separate God from love. The biggest way you can show others that you love God is to love the people around you too!

Grab a sheet of paper and some coloring supplies. Write this week's bottom line on the page, "**Friends love one another.**" Hang this somewhere you'll see it all week.

Look for ways to show love to your friends.

DAY 4

Read Romans 12:10

Circle the response that shows love in the scenarios below:

Your friend is sad but you don't know why.

- You ignore it and keep playing.
- You ask what's wrong and then listen when she's ready to talk.
- You tell your friend to stop acting so quiet and weird.

Your friend throws the ball and it goes down in the gutter. You say,

- "It's okay. It was an accident."
- "Way to go. Now we can't play anymore!"
- "I can't believe you did that!"

Your friend misses catching the ball and your kickball team loses at recess.

- You yell at your friend in front of everyone.
- You refuse to speak to that friend for the rest of recess.
- You say, "It's okay" and remind him that you missed a big shot earlier in the game.

It's easy to spot the "right" answers in these scenarios. But in real life, it can be really hard to love and honor others more than yourself. The good news is that God will help you be a good friend, the kind of friend who loves even when it's hard.

Thank God for loving you and for showing you how to love others too. Ask Him to help you honor others more than yourself this week, when it's easy and when it's hard.