

## The Greatest (Greatest Commandment) Love God. Love Others.

**Today's Bible Story:** The Greatest (Greatest Commandment) • *Matthew 22:36-40*

**Today's Bottom Line:** Love God. Love others.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large.* Luke 16:10a (NirV)

**Monthly Life App:** Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

**Basic Truth:** I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

### 1. Opening Activity

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Paper, tape, marker

#### What You Do:

- Label the paper #1, #2, #3, and #4 then tape one in each corner of your activity area.
- If you do not have four corners in your space, mark four places within your environment where kids can run to.
- Explain that you will list four options for each corner.
- Kids will then indicate their favorite by running to the corner with that number. For example:
  - Corner One—Pizza
  - Corner Two—Corndogs
  - Corner Three—Chicken Wings
  - Corner Four—Spam
- Once kids have picked a corner, read another list of options.
- Continue the game until you've read all of the corner options.

#### Corner Options:

- Pizza, Corndogs, Chicken Wings, Spam
- Dogs, Cats, Hamsters, Fish
- Snow on a mountain, Sand on a beach, Wind on a boat, Calm weather outside the window
- Chocolate cake, Cookie cake, Cheesecake, No cake but some other kind of treat
- TV show, Movie, YouTube videos, Video games

## 2. Go Responsibility

**What You Need:** “Go Responsibility” card sets (print pages 3, 4 & 5 on cardstock). Game played like “Go Fish”

### What You Do:

- Instruct each kid to choose four cards without showing them anyone.
- Instruct each group to place the remainder of the cards face down in the middle of their group.
- Explain that each player must try to create a set of three matching cards, but they can only have four cards in their hand at one time. A heart card can be used as a trump to complete any matching set.
- The first player asks another player for a card they need.
  - For example, a kid can ask, “Do you have any ‘Make your bed’ cards?”
- If the player asked has the cards, they must give one to the kid who asked for it.
- If the other player does not have that card, the kid can take the top card from the pile in the middle.
- Then that kid must decide which card to discard. (When the draw pile is empty, shuffle the discard pile and that becomes the new draw pile.)
- When a kid finds three cards that match, direct them to put the cards face up in front of them.
- The first kid to find matches for all of their cards wins the round.
- Play as many rounds as time allows.
- Once you’re finished playing ask: What kind of responsibility cards did you see as you played the game?

### Review Questions:

1. Who is someone in your world who may need to be shown love? *(Allow kids to respond.)*
2. How many rules did Jesus pick as the most important? *(two)*
3. Why did Jesus pick only two rules out of the 613? *(because He said that all of the other rules are based off of those two)*
4. How can you love God and love others this week? *(Allow kids to respond.)*

### What You Say:

“Now that was fun! Did anybody draw a card with a responsibility that they actually did this past week? *(Allow time for responses.)* You guys rock! I should probably make my bed when I get home. Showing responsibility with things around our house is really important. But God says that it’s also super important that we show responsibility because we’re showing the people in our lives how we love them. As a matter of fact, God says that the greatest thing we can do is love God and love others.

That means that we can do all the things we’re responsible for because we show that we love the people God has put in our life.



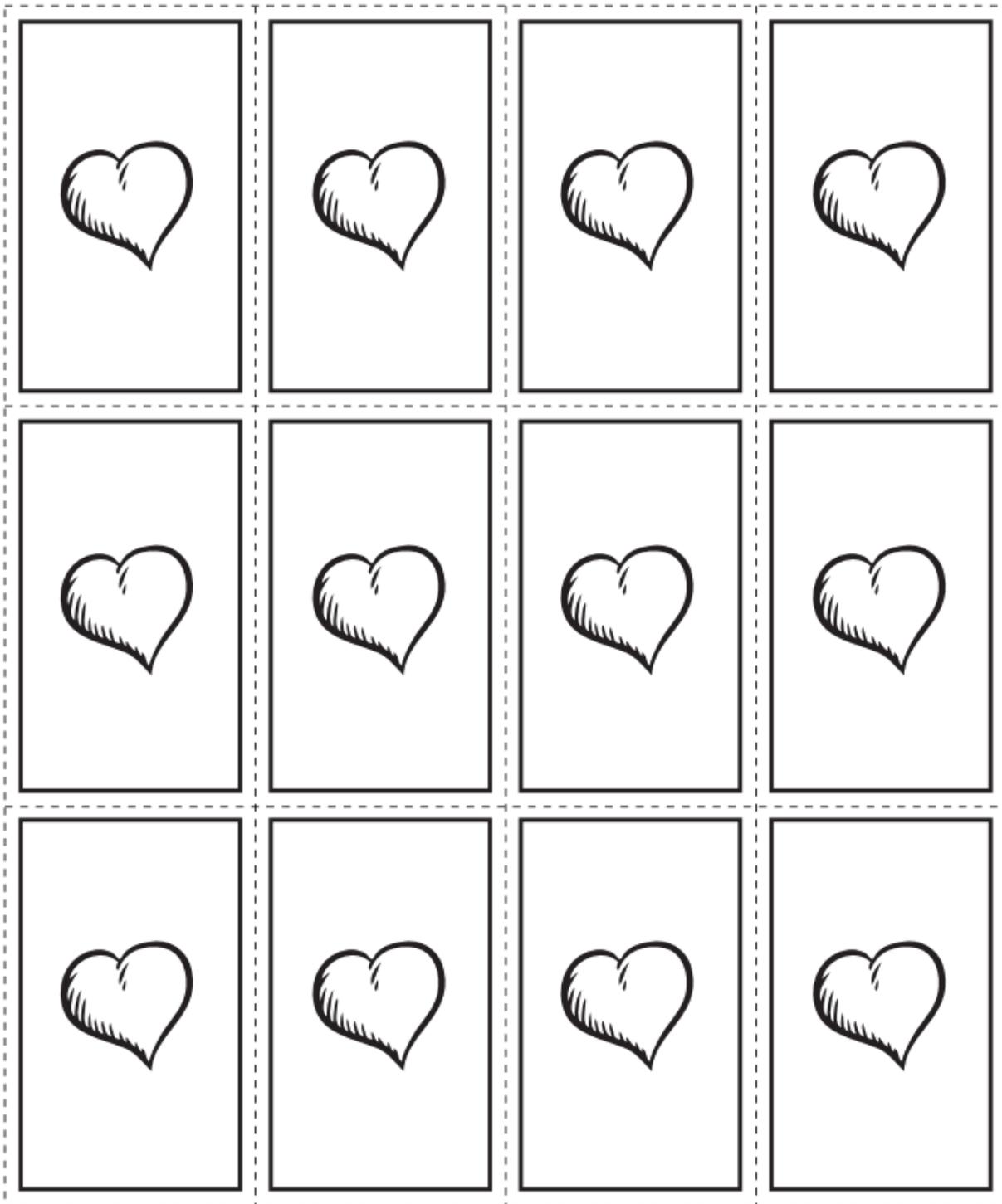
**WHAT TO DO:**  
Print on cardstock and cut apart, one deck (three of each image)  
plus one heart card for every two to three kids.

**"Go Responsibility" Activity Page 1/3**  
January 2021, Week 1, Small Group 2-3  
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|---|---|--|--|
|  <p><b>Help carry in the groceries</b></p>   |  <p><b>Wash the dishes</b></p>   |  <p><b>Pick up trash at the park</b></p>   |  <p><b>Dust the house</b></p>   |
|  <p><b>Help carry in the groceries</b></p>  |  <p><b>Wash the dishes</b></p>  |  <p><b>Pick up trash at the park</b></p>  |  <p><b>Dust the house</b></p>  |
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**What to Do:**  
Print on cardstock and cut apart, one deck (three of each image) plus one heart card for every two to three kids.

**"Go Responsibility" Activity Page 2/3**  
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**WHAT TO DO:**  
Print on cardstock and cut apart, one deck (three of each image)  
plus one heart card for every two to three kids.

**"Go Responsibility" Activity Page 3/3**  
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### 3. Never-Ending Love

#### [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

*Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

**What You Need:** “Never-Ending Love” Activity Page (print page 7), Bibles, scissors, construction paper, markers

#### **What You Do:**

- Use “Never-Ending Love” Activity Page to familiarize yourself with how to make an accordion heart.
- Look up and read this month’s memory verse together.
- Provide each kid with a piece of paper, a marker, and scissors.
- Show the kids how to fold and cut their paper to make accordion hearts.
- Encourage kids to write the memory verse across their accordion hearts.
- Review the memory verse together again.

#### **What You Say:**

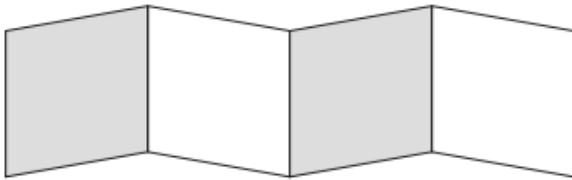
“Do you see how one heart leads to the next then the next? When we show God we can be trusted with a small thing, like loving one person (*fold your paper back into one heart*), He will trust us with more (*unfold paper back to many hearts*). When you love God, it will spread into more and more opportunities to **[Bottom Line] Love God. Love others.** In every small thing you choose to show responsibility with each and every day, you make a very big impact in the world around you! How cool is that?”

#### **Prayer**

**Parent:** “Dear God, we are so thankful for the great responsibility You give us to love. You put Your people and things around us every day and trust us to take care of them. That’s such a big deal! Please help us see the many opportunities we have to **Love God. Love others.** Help us stand up and say yes to the chance to care for others and create a ripple effect of love in the world around us!”

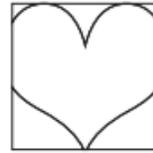
**1**

Cut a sheet of paper into thirds, cutting across the width when holding the paper in landscape orientation.



**2**

Fold one strip accordion style—three folds that divide the strip into four equal sections.



**3**

With the strip still folded accordion style, draw the shape of a heart, allowing the heart edges to go over the side.



**4**

Cut around the heart shape, make sure that you leave the edges intact and connected.



**5**

Unfold the paper and you should have four connected hearts!

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**What to Do:**

Print one for each small group.

**"Never-Ending Love" Activity Page**

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