

Block Party: Everyone's Invited



First, watch
this week's
video!

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

Memory Verse

"A friend loves at
all times. They are
there to help when
trouble comes."
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

Bible Story

Elijah and Elisha
(1 Kings 19:14-21;
2 Kings 2:1-15)

Bottom Line

Friends encourage
one another.

Use this guide with your family to learn how
God can help us be better friends.

Activity

Elijah or Elisha?

What You Need

Two sheets of paper and something to write with

What You Do

On one sheet of paper, write *Elijah* in large letters. On the other, write *Elisha*. (If you have more than one child playing the game, make a set of signs for each child. Enlist their help if they have neat enough handwriting!)

Tell your child that you're going to play a game. You'll read a fact from the story today. If it's a fact about Elijah, they hold up the *Elijah* sign. If it's a fact about Elisha, they hold up the *Elisha* sign.

As you read the facts below, let your child(ren) guess before telling them the correct answer.

- He did amazing things through God's power, and was sent to anoint the other. (*Elijah*)
- He was plowing a field when the other came to find him. (*Elisha*)
- He kissed his father and mother goodbye and followed the other. (*Elisha*)
- He told the other to "stay here" because God had called him to Bethel. (*Elijah*)
- He said, "I won't leave you." (This happened several times.) (*Elisha*)
- He took his coat, rolled it up, and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. (*Elijah*)
- He said the other was like a father to him. (*Elisha*)
- God took him up to heaven in a chariot of fire. (*Elijah*)
- After his friend had been taken to heaven, he rolled up his friend's coat and struck the water with it again, and the water divided and he walked on dry ground again—but this time he was alone. (*Elisha*)

After the game, tell your child that they did a great job remembering the details from the story!

Talk about the Bible Story

How was Elijah a good friend to Elisha? (*Elijah encouraged Elisha to follow God's plan for his life.*)

Have you ever had a friend encourage you? How did it feel?

Have you ever encouraged a friend? What did you say?

Is there anyone you can think of who might need encouraging? What could we do as a family to encourage them?



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, thank You for always being the kind of Friend to us that Elijah was to Elisha. You love us and encourage us through the words in the Bible, and You also encourage us through the people You've placed in our lives. Please help us to be the kind of friends who encourage others. We love You! Amen."

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

WEEK
3
2ND-3RD

DAY 1

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Grab some blocks or a few plastic cups and build the tallest tower you can. Okay, now take a guess as to how long your tower will last before someone knocks it over? An hour? Fifteen minutes? Thirty seconds? What if you were to stand next to it to protect it? Would it last longer if you were there to keep watch?

When it comes to friendships, encouragement is super important. Everyone has bad days, days when they don't feel like they can do anything right. As a friend, you have the opportunity to help someone feel better just by using words that encourage!

But encouragement isn't just about words. Sometimes, just being present, sticking with a friend and letting them know you're there can go a long way too. When someone is sad, just sitting with them, giving a high five or a smile can help too.

Take a look at your tower. Name one friend you would like to encourage this week with your words and actions so that you can build each other up. As you pray today, ask God to help you remember that friends encourage one another.

DAY 2

Read John 15:12

Jesus asks us to love one another just as He has loved us. How did Jesus show love? He served. Remember how He washed the disciple's feet? He helped. Remember how He fed that huge crowd with one boy's lunch? He put others first. Remember how He willingly faced the cross so that we could be forgiven. He encouraged others. Remember how He said that we would face trouble but not to worry because He is in control? (John 16:33)

Jesus is the best friend ever. How could you be a friend like Jesus this week? Give some specific examples by filling in the blanks below.

I can help my friends by _____

I can put my friends first by _____

I can encourage my friends by _____

As you pray today, ask God to help you follow through and be good friend just as Jesus has been a good friend to you.

Friends encourage
one another.

DAY 3

Read Galatians 6:2

When you read today's verse, are you confused? When Paul wrote these words, was he talking about carrying each other's stuff? Actually, "heavy loads" mean failures, temptations, or trials. When someone messes up, or is tempted to make an unwise choice, we should step in and help. Instead of standing off the side or even criticizing, we should encourage our friends and do what we can to make things easier. A good friend is there to encourage and say, "I'm here. How can I help?"

Use the key to fill in the blanks:

3 1 18 18 24 15 14 5 1 14 15 20 8 5

18 19 8 5 1 22 24 12 15 1 4 19

9 6 24 15 21 4 15 24 15 21

23 9 12 12 6 21 12 6 9 12 12 20 8 5

12 1 23 15 6 3 8 18 9 19 20

6:2

7 1 12 1 20 9 1 14 19

Key

1 - A	5 - E	9 - I	13 - M	17 - Q	21 - U
2 - B	6 - F	10 - J	14 - N	18 - R	22 - V
3 - C	7 - G	11 - K	15 - O	19 - S	23 - W
4 - D	8 - H	12 - L	16 - P	20 - T	24 - Y

DAY 4

Read Romans 15:2

When was the last time someone did something that encouraged you? Maybe a friend gave you a pat on the back and said, "It's okay" when you missed the goal in your soccer game. Or your mom sent a note in your lunch saying she was praying for your big math test. Maybe your teacher put a smiley face on your paper with a note saying, "keep up the great work."

There are **LOTS** of ways we can encourage others. Today, to help you put this into practice, think about someone you know that could use some encouragement. Make a card or write a note to that friend to encourage them. Think of a fun way to deliver it to your friend this week. *NOTE: You might need to ask an adult for help with this depending on your plan.*

You don't have to stop with just one note! Pay attention to the friends around you that look like they need encouragement. Make it a habit to say something kind, write a note, or just be present to sit with a friend who is discouraged. Ask God to help you be the kind of friend that encourages others and builds them up.



SEPTEMBER
2020

Elementary

WEEKLY CUES



YOU GOT
THIS!



Theme

Block Party: Everyone's Invited

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



REMEMBER THIS

"A friend loves at all times.
They are there to help
when trouble comes."
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

Week Three

Elijah and Elisha

1 Kings 19:14-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15

Say This

Friends encourage one another.

Do This



Bed Time

Take a few minutes to share how you have been encouraged by someone else. Now, brainstorm some ways that you could encourage a friend this week. It might be drawing a card, taking an extra treat in your lunch to share, or just giving them a big smile. Pray that God would show you creative ways to encourage your friends this week.



**If you want
your kid to be
a good friend,
teach them to be
the friend they
want to find.**

For blog posts and parenting resources, visit TheParentCue.org
