Wednesday Small Group Time

Bible Story: Love One Another / Philip and the Ethiopian Official • *John 13:34-35, Acts 8:26-40*
Bottom Line: Love others the way Jesus loves you.
Memory Verse: "Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them." *John 7:38 (NIV)*

Before Tuesday night, pray for each child in your group. Pray for the conversations your group will have today. Ask God to give you wisdom and guidance to respond to any circumstances that may come to light as a result of today's content.

1. A Love like Jesus

What You Need: "A Love Like Jesus" Activity Page, markers (all supplies will be provided at camp)

What You Do:
- Give "A Love Like Jesus" Activity Page to each kid.
- Set out the markers.
- As a group, invite the kids to think of as many examples of showing love as they can. (Encourage them to think of all kinds of love, not just doing things for other people.) Here are some examples:
  - Realizing your friend is sad and sitting with them on the playground
  - Giving a parent a hug
  - Letting a sibling pick the movie or game to play
  - Making something for someone important
- Instruct kids to write a few sentences or draw a picture of themselves showing someone love in one of the ways the group talked about.
- When kids are finished, invite volunteers to share their pictures/paragraphs with the rest of the group.

What You Say:
"Jesus showed love to those around Him so we could see how we can make waves in this big world and love others too. ***[Make it Personal] (Share about a time someone loved you so well and it reminded you of Jesus' love for you.)*** This week, when you ***[Bottom Line]* Love others the way Jesus loves you,** remember that you could be changing the way someone sees Jesus! You could be making a forever difference in their life—making waves by changing the world around you!"

2. River of Love

What You Need: Bibles, blue construction paper, markers, tape (all art supplies will be provided at camp)

What You Do:
- Together as a group, look up John 7:38, and read it out loud.
- Share that the kids are going to be making their own rivers!
- Give each kid 12 pieces of blue construction paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to write the verse on the strips—one or two words on each strip. (The kids can use their Bibles as reference.)
- To write the whole verse on their twelve strips, direct the kids to write one of the words of the verse on ten of the strips, and two words of the verse on two of the strips. (There are thirteen words, plus the reference, in the Memory Verse.)
- Set out the tape.
- When each kid has written the verse on their strips, demonstrate how to join the bottom end to the top end of a strip to create a circle.
- Instruct the kids to secure each circle with tape.
- Demonstrate how to loop the next strip through the circle and secure the bottom end to the top end of the strip to begin making a paper chain.

What You Say:
"Does anyone know what the longest river in the world is? *(Allow time for guesses.)* It's the Nile River, which goes for 4,132 miles! Our chains aren't nearly that long, but I want to challenge you to hang your river somewhere at home you will see it often so you can be reminded that Jesus has chosen you to continue flowing His love to everyone in the world. There's no one on earth who doesn't deserve to be loved by Jesus, so let's make waves and *[Bottom Line]* **love others the way Jesus loves you**!"

3. Prayer Card Activity

What You Need: "Prayer Card:" Activity Page, markers (provided at camp)

What You Do:
- Give each kid a prayer card, a marker
- Point out the "splash" symbol on the prayer card.
- Say: "You can make a big SPLASH when you *[Bottom Line]* **love others the way Jesus loves you.**"
- Invite the kids to think of someone they can show Jesus' love to.
- Instruct the kids to turn over their card and write that person's name.
- As you guide your group in prayer, direct the kids to whisper the name of the person they chose each time you pause in your prayer.

Pray and Dismiss when bell rings