

Friday!

It's Friday and our word today is...(drum roll, please)...**Justice.**



Friday's Devotion

Matthew 22: 35-40

"Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him (Jesus) with this question: 'Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?'. Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these commandments.

Mark 12: 32-34

"Well said, teacher," the man replied. 'You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.' When Jesus saw he had answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions."

At camp, we learn that it is important to serve others. We go to the garden for our Service Project, we help our table mates by picking up food and we all pitch in to clean up. We also serve each other by doing cabin clean up and by following rules so that we don't cost our cabin mates time in fun activities. It is important that when we return home that we continue this attitude of service by finding projects, no matter how small, that we can do to help our neighbors and make our communities better.

In these scriptures, the expert in the law was trying to trap Jesus into saying something blasphemous (something offensive to God) so that they could charge him with a crime. What Jesus did was answer the expert's question in such a manner as to express that He (Jesus) was a new covenant (promise) that would take the over 600 laws given to Moses and simplify them down to two: Love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as you love yourself. We are so worried today about getting justice that we have lost sight of the fact that if we just loved each other like we love ourselves then Justice would take care of itself. We can do this by remembering that Jesus came to serve not to be served and that he has called us to serve each other not to seek being served.

To live a life of service is to place the interests of others ahead of your own. I can honestly say that when I have been able to do this (be it volunteering, at work, coaching, or even at home) it has yielded blessed results. Jesus tells us that the two greatest commandments are to love God and to love one another, Paul tells us that there are three great gifts (faith, hope, and love) and the greatest of these is love, and in John Jesus says that our love "tells them they are mine". Let your love tell the world that you are His!

Friday's Devotion Reflection Questions

1. What is one way that you can serve someone else today? How can you put the needs of someone else before your own?
2. How does it make you feel when someone else does something nice for you?
3. When Jesus says to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, that sort of implies that we have to love ourselves. What are three things that you love about yourself? Now pick one other person and think of three things you really love about them?
4. Possibly the most difficult thing about what Jesus said here was to love our neighbor. Who is our neighbor? Is it just the person who lives next door or is it all the people who live around us every day?

****Before doing the activities or service projects, please check with your adult to make sure it is okay.****

Friday's Activities

1. Make paper beads and string to make a necklace or bracelet.
<https://www.favecrafts.com/Beading/Unbelievably-Easy-Paper-Beads> You will need paper, a small stick (toothpick), scissors, ruler, glue and thin string (dental floss). These directions have you paint nail polish on the beads for an extra special look. Give beads to a sibling or friend so they can make a bracelet.
2. Find three to five objects that represent you now (at this very moment). Next, find three to five objects that represent the person you want to become. Take a picture. Share who you are & who you want to become with us.
3. Talent Show. Have you learned a new talent or improved on an existing talent since camp last year? Share this talent with us.
4. Set a goal for the year. Is there a skill you want to learn? Or a habit you want to improve upon? Examples: make your bed everyday or complete all homework assignments
5. Voting is important. It is one tool we have to make things better for ourselves and our neighbors. Design a "I Voted" sticker or "Future Voter" sticker. If you live in Craven County you can submit them.
<https://share.peachjar.com/flyers/991422/schools/98415>. The winning design will be used to create stickers for election on November 3rd. If you live outside of Craven County, check with your county's Board of Elections to see if they are also doing this contest. Also, ask the adults around you if they are registered to vote. They can register online: <https://www.ncsbe.gov/Voters/Registering-to-Vote>. They can check their registration status: <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/>
6. Design a Camp Hope 2020 t-shirt. SHARE! We want to see your creations!
7. Puzzle Time! <https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=1ded15c368a7>
<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=321b29aee73c>
<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=21d12f3cc3f8>

Friday's Service Projects

1. Make your bed.
2. Clean up outside your home. Organize toys, pick up trash, pull weeds, etc.. Remember, check with your adult before doing this activity.
3. Do a random act of kindness for someone else.
4. In the mirror, practice smiling with just your eyes. Smize, as Tyra Banks calls it. Why? SMIZE when you are out in public with your mask on. SMIZE and spread JOY.
<https://www.recordonline.com/story/news/local/2020/06/06/put-on-your-mask--and-smize/111914276/>
5. Cabin Clean Up! Make sure to clean up after all camp activities.