

GOD'S LOVE IS FOR EVERYONE:
HELPING OTHERS

Target Age: Preschool (Ages 3-5)
Key Verse: James 1:27 (Simplified) - "God wants us to help take care of others"
Duration: 30-40 minutes

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Learn that God wants us to help others
- Understand that some children need extra love and care
- Discover ways to show kindness to others
- Learn that families can look different

WELCOME TIME (5 MINUTES)

"My Helping Hands" Song
(Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")

I can help with these two hands (clap, clap)
I can help with these two hands (clap, clap)
Jesus teaches me to share
And to show how much I care
I can help with these two hands (clap, clap)

BIBLE STORY TIME (7-8 MINUTES)

Simple Story Format
"Today we're learning about helping others! The Bible tells us that God wants us to help take care of people who need extra love."

Use a felt board or simple pictures to show:
- Children helping others
- Different types of families
- People sharing toys
- People giving hugs

HEART-TO-HEART ACTIVITY (5 MINUTES)

Materials:
- Soft toy heart or stuffed animal
- Sitting circle

Pass the heart around the circle. Each child hugs it and says: "I can share God's love by..." (help them with simple suggestions like sharing toys, giving hugs, being kind)

CRAFT: "HELPING HANDS" (10 MINUTES)

Materials needed:
- Construction paper
- Washable paint
- Wet wipes
- Markers (for teachers)

Instructions:
1. Paint each child's hands
2. Make handprints on paper
3. Teachers write: "My hands can help others!"
4. Decorate with heart stickers

MOVEMENT ACTIVITY: "LOVE IN ACTION" (5 MINUTES)

Simple movements to act out ways to help:
- Pretend to share a toy
- Give a gentle hug
- Help clean up
- Wave hello to a new friend

FOSTER THE CITY CONNECTION (AGE-APPROPRIATE)

Simple ways preschoolers can help:
- Draw pictures for Foster the City families
- Help collect new stuffed animals
- Pray for children who need extra love
- Share toys for donation

TAKE-HOME POINTS

Simple messages:
- God loves all children
- We can help others
- Sharing shows love
- Everyone needs hugs and kindness

PARENT CONNECTION

Send home:
- Today's simple Bible message
- Foster the City Resource Page and FTC Contact Information
- Church Advocate
- Prayer points for little ones
- Picture of their "Helping Hands" craft

SAFETY NOTES FOR TEACHERS

- Keep all discussions very simple and positive
- Focus on helping and kindness
- Avoid potentially scary or confusing topics
- Celebrate all types of families
- Use inclusive language

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (IF TIME ALLOWS)

"Sharing Circle" Game
Pass around a basket of soft toys, practicing sharing and saying "here's some love for you!"

"Kind Hearts" Dance
Simple movements to gentle music, holding paper hearts

"Helper Heroes" Dress Up
- Doctor's kit
- Cooking toys
- Tool set
- Caring for baby dolls

PRAYER TIME

Simple repeat-after-me prayer: "Dear God, (pause) Help us share your love, (pause) With everyone we meet. (pause) Thank you for caring for us. (pause) Amen."