

FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS

2ND GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Help your child understand what makes a loyal and loving friend, and how God wants us to treat others with kindness and care.

WHAT TO KNOW

Second graders are starting to form deeper friendships and are becoming more aware of how others treat them and how they treat others in return. They're growing in empathy and learning to navigate more complex emotions like hurt feelings, exclusion, jealousy, or conflict. They may begin comparing friendships or wondering if they truly belong in certain groups.

This is a great age to talk about loyalty, forgiveness, and choosing friends who bring out the best in them. Kids this age often need help understanding that real friends aren't perfect, but they are kind, trustworthy, and willing to work through tough moments. They also need reassurance that not every friendship has to be the same—and it's okay to walk away from a friendship that's hurtful or unkind.

Most importantly, they're still watching how you talk to others and how you handle friendship struggles. When you model honesty, empathy, and healthy conflict resolution, you're showing them what godly friendship looks like in real life.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17 NIV

Real friendship isn't just about having fun—it means sticking by someone through the ups and downs, even when it's hard..

In 1 Samuel 18:1–4 and chapter 20, David and Jonathan shared a loyal, God-honoring friendship. Jonathan helped and protected David, even when it was difficult. Their story shows us what it means to love others well, stand by our friends, and put others first. This reminds us that friendships are one of God's best gifts—and the best ones reflect His love, loyalty, and care.



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TALK ABOUT IT

- What makes a good friend?
- How can you show love and kindness to your friends?
- Have you ever had to forgive a friend or ask for forgiveness?
- What helps you trust someone as a friend?
- Can you think of a time when someone was a really good friend to you?
- What kind of friend do you want to be?

LIVE IT OUT

Help your child think of a friend who has been kind or encouraging lately. Work together to create something thoughtful—a card, drawing, note, or small surprise—to show appreciation. Encourage them to give it in person if they can, and afterward talk about how it felt to show love in action. You could even pray together for that friend and their friendship.

Then, invite your child to keep being intentional. Challenge them to do one kind thing for that same friend this week—like sharing something they enjoy, offering encouragement, or including them in a game. Talk about how these small choices help build trust and show care.

If your child is having a hard time with a friend, gently talk through what's going on. Help them think about how to be honest and kind at the same time. Remind them that being a good friend doesn't mean being perfect—it means being thoughtful, forgiving, and full of love.

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask God to help your child build strong, lasting friendships that are kind, forgiving, and rooted in love. Encourage them to ask God to help them be a friend who reflects His love to others.

"God, thank You for my friends. Help me be a good friend who shows love, shares, listens, and helps others. Amen."

