

FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS

5TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Help your child understand how to choose and build healthy friendships that reflect the love of Jesus.

WHAT TO KNOW

Fifth graders are stepping into a new level of independence. Friendships carry even more influence, and kids are figuring out who they trust, how to deal with conflict, and what it means to belong. Social circles may shift quickly, and peer pressure can be strong, making this a great time to help them see how their faith can shape the way they treat others—and how to choose friends who do the same.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13 NIV
Jesus showed us what real friendship looks like. He loved without limits, served others, forgave quickly, and gave His life to save us. He is the model for how we can be a friend to others.

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17
The Bible reminds us to surround ourselves with people who build us up and push us closer to God.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32
God wants our friendships to be marked by truth, kindness, and grace.

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
One of the best things we can do for our friends is to lift them up when they are down.



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TALK ABOUT IT

- What qualities make someone a great friend?
- Who in your life encourages you to do the right thing?
- What helps you resolve a disagreement with someone?
- How do you think Jesus wants us to treat our friends?
- Has there ever been a time when you had to stand up for someone or include someone who felt left out?

LIVE IT OUT

Invite your child to keep a “Friendship Journal” this week, writing down one way each day they were a good friend—through kindness, honesty, or encouragement. At the end of the week, reflect together on what stood out, what was challenging, and what felt meaningful. Then, help them choose one friendship to focus on—maybe they need to say sorry, spend more time together, or be more patient. Talk about what makes a friend worth keeping and how to be that kind of friend.

You could also brainstorm together a list of ways to be a Christlike friend—things like listening well, standing up for someone, or being trustworthy—and keep it posted somewhere visible. As they grow in their relationships, remind them that every kind word and action is a chance to reflect Jesus to someone else.

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask God to help your child become the kind of friend who is patient, encouraging, and loving. Pray for wisdom in choosing friends and for strength to forgive and speak truth with kindness.

“Lord, help me be a Christ-like friend. Teach me to love, forgive, and support others as You have loved me. Amen.”

