

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Part I – Jesus **is** Here

We are all having a tough time these days. Missing our friends, our family, our teachers. This stay-at-home time means we have to miss going to church too. It almost feels like everyone has a giant wall built around their house. You can’t go out and no one can come in. But, do you know “who” can come in, no matter what? Just because we cannot go to church does not mean we can’t be with JESUS!

He is not quarantined from any of us. He wants to be here with you. He wants to help you when you are sad, lonely, or scared. No one can keep Jesus away from you.

- There was a time back in Jesus’ day where grown-ups—the disciples—tried to keep the children away from Jesus. They didn’t want them to bother Him.
- The story goes like this: One day, many people were gathered around Jesus, asking him difficult questions. Jesus was very busy giving God's answers to these difficult questions, when suddenly, he stopped. Something was happening that Jesus believed was more important than these questions.
- Let’s read about it in Mark 10:13-16: *Some people brought their small children to Jesus so he could touch them. But his followers told the people to stop bringing their children to him. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was displeased. He said to them, “**Let the little children come to me.** Don’t stop them. The kingdom of God belongs to people who are like these little children. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth. You must accept the kingdom of God as a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it.” ¹⁶ **Then Jesus took the children in his arms. He put his hands on them and blessed them.***

See, Jesus wants you to come to Him. He wants everyone to come to Him with the faith and belief like a child. It’s so easy. You don’t have to be in a church building or with a full class of kids or your teacher. You can come to Him in your living room, your bedroom, your kitchen, even your back yard! Just call out to Him in prayer and worship and He will be there for you! Why? Because Jesus Loves You! He loves ALL the little children (and the big ones too)!

Discussion Questions:

1. One of the verses we read said Jesus was displeased. Why do you think He was displeased? *(He didn't want the disciples to stop the children from coming to Him because they were important.)*
2. Does the Kingdom of God belong only to grown-ups? *(No, to children also.)*
3. Do you think Jesus felt that spending time with children was as important as answering difficult questions? *(Jesus stopped what He was doing to welcome the children.)*
4. How would you feel if you were one of those children that Jesus took in His arms? *(Allow for answers.)*
5. Do you know that Jesus has His arms around you right now? *(Allow for answers.)*

Discussion – Part 2

Count Your Blessings: Talk to the children about blessings.

Say something like: “In the story, Jesus blessed the children who were brought to Him. God gives us MANY blessings each day! If we were to try and count them all we would get tired just counting!”

Talk about some of God’s blessings. For example: sun, rain, life... All good things come from God!

Activities:

Coloring pages and Prayer Journal

- **Jesus Loves the Children**
- **Jesus Loves Me**
- **Make a prayer journal.** Pick a prayer journal page from the packet or just take some notebook paper, maybe half size it if necessary, staple together and add one their coloring pages as the cover, or let them make a new cover. Share with the kids the importance of prayer and talking with Jesus when they are scared or lonely during this difficult time. But also emphasize what they are thankful for, their blessings and gratitude. These things are important to include in their prayer journal. Have them date each page, and write their prayer requests. Leave room under each to go back and write down how God answered their prayer!

Feel free to take a picture of their art work and post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe.

Have a Blessed Day & Week!

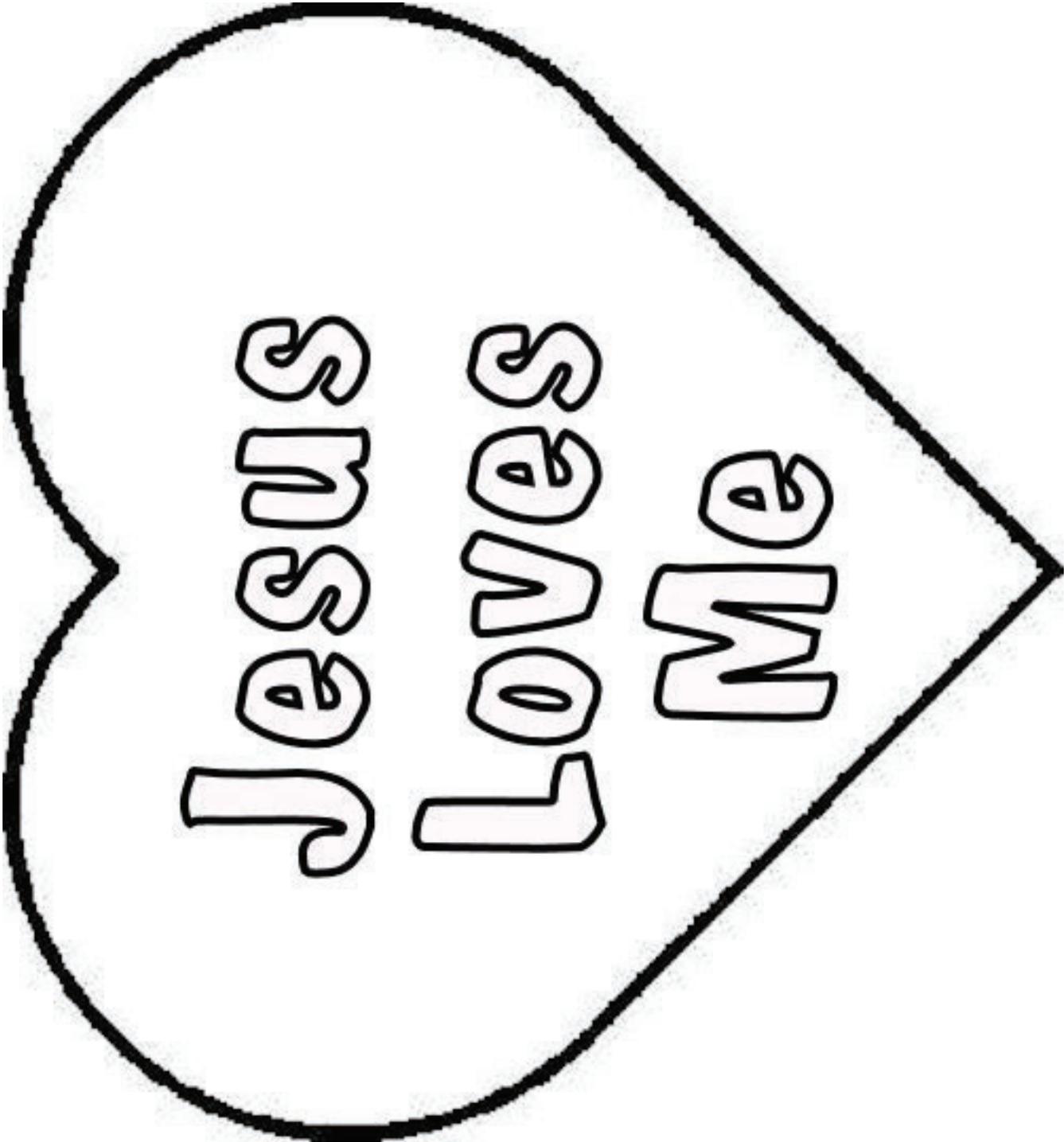
Until we can meet again ~

Teacher Chrissy

Jesus loves me! This I know,
As He loved so long ago,
Taking children on His knee,
Saying, "Let them come to Me."

—Anna Bartlett Warner





Jesus
Loves
Me

My Prayer List for _____

Monday

My world

Tuesday

My country

Wednesday

My neighborhood

Thursday

My friends and family

Friday

Myself

Saturday Service Ideas

Sunday Praises

My Prayer List:

Ways I will pray for my family and friends:

Ways I will pray for my world:

Ways I will pray for my community:

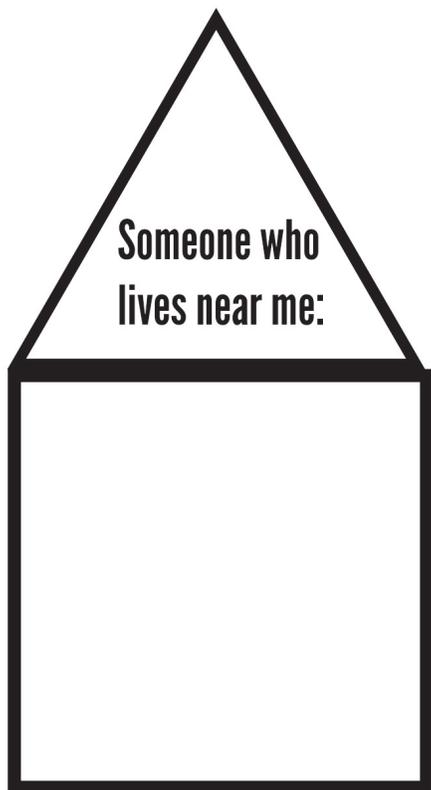
Ways I will pray for my church:

Ways I will pray for myself:

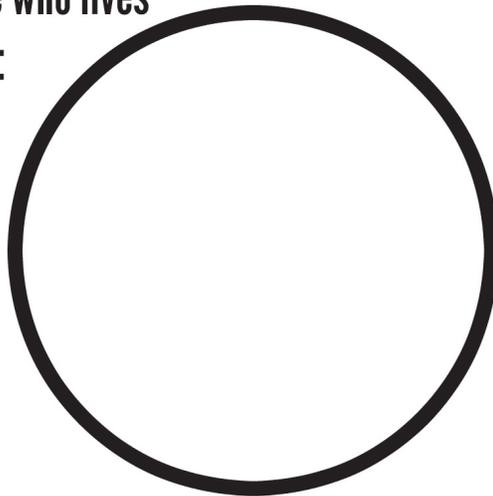
Ways God has answered my prayers:

I will pray for . . .

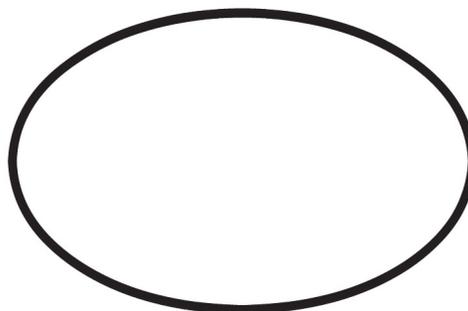
Someone Bigger Than Me:



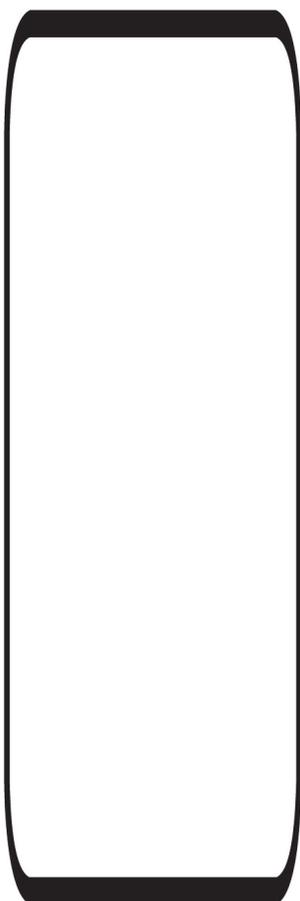
Someone who lives far away:



Someone Smaller Than Me:



Someone I've never met:



Myself!!

