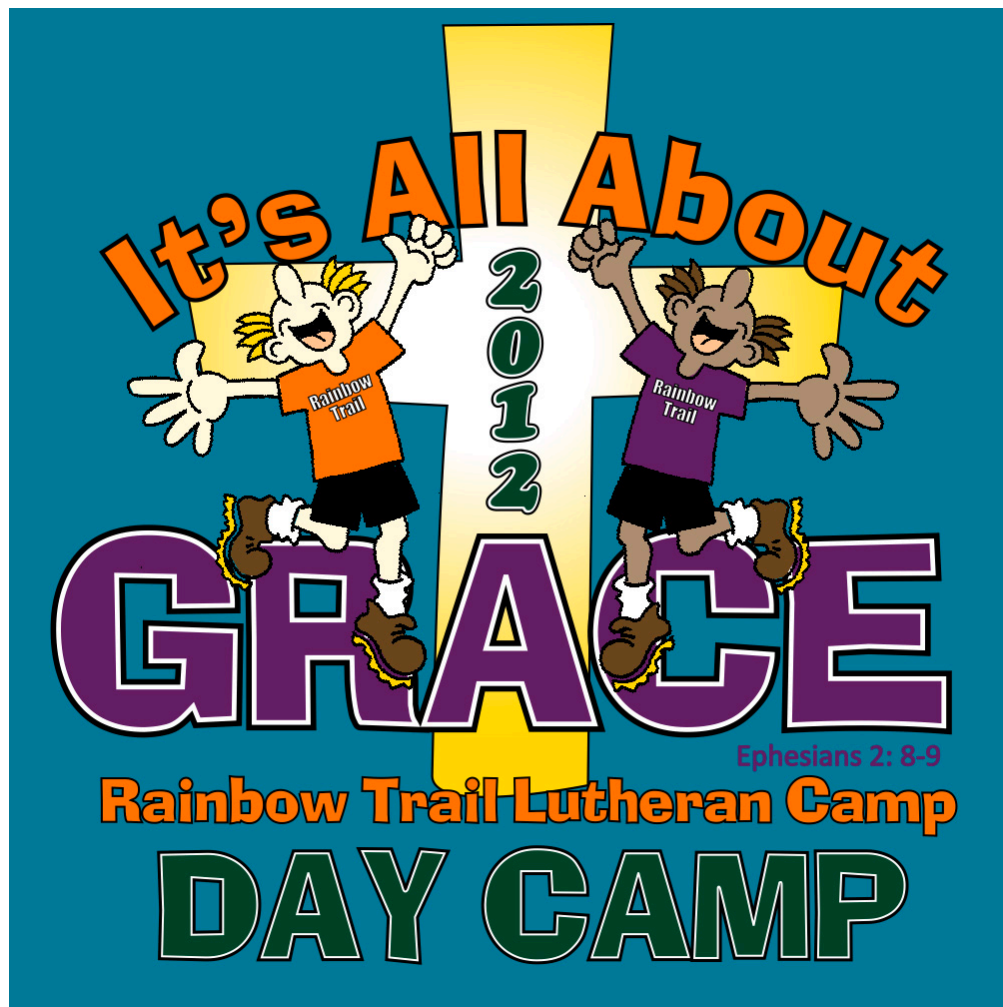




**2012 Day Camp
Preschool Bible Study**



2012 RTLCL Day Camp Preschool Bible Study

Day 1:

Grace = God's Steadfast Love

Objective: Campers will learn that God promises to love us.

Welcome: Teach the children a song that they will sing each day to welcome them and get them settled. Children LOVE music so add variety each day with silly voices, singing loud and soft, or high and low. And actions if you feel... the more you can appeal to their five senses, the better!

"Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

Twinkle twinkle precious star
Jesus loves just who you are
He loves your smile
He loves your voice
Jesus thinks
you're special and nice
Twinkle twinkle precious star
Jesus loves just who you are

"B-I-N-G-O"

There is a God in heaven
above
Who gives love to me.
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
God gives me lots of love, yay!

Hook:

*Have the children play a name game. Use a special item like a ball or another prop to be a "talking stick." Roll a ball or pass the talking stick to each child and ask them to share their name.

*Another fun way to say hi to each camper is with the letter song. The tune is to the song "C is for cookie." Simply use the camper's first initial and their name:

"M for Marisa, that's good enough for me (x3) Oh, Marisa, Marisa, Marisa starts with M."

Once the children have all had a chance to say their name it is time to get their wiggles out. Stand up and "chugga" around the circle. Call the children one by one to join your "train." Move all around the room or space as more children are called. Bring the train back to the carpet, tables, or circle area for BOOK.

Book: Start with a prayer that the children repeat after you.

Dear God,
Thank you for my family.
Thank you for my friends.
Thank you for loving me.
Amen.

Today we are going to talk about God. Who is God? (Some campers may have answers and others may not have words to express their ideas. Help them if necessary.)

Our story today is about a Dad and his son. (It may be best to tell the story paraphrased because little kiddos have short attention spans.)

11 Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." ²²But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

God loves us so much. Just like the Dad who was so happy to see his son again. God loves us that much all the time!

Took:

*Have the children color and decorate a construction paper heart shape. While they are coloring ask the campers to name people who love them. Remind them that God loves them just as much as the people they named.

*Another option would be to give them a rainbow coloring page. While they are working explain to them that a rainbow is a reminder of God's promise to love us.

*Play Mystery blanket: You need a shirt or towel or something to place over the "love cards." Lay the cards down and say the color of each heart with the children. Cover up the cards and have the campers close their eyes. Carefully slide one card away and out of sight. Have campers open their eyes and guess which one is missing. (Have one child guess at a time or suggest they whisper at the same time)

Closing prayer: Ask them to repeat after you

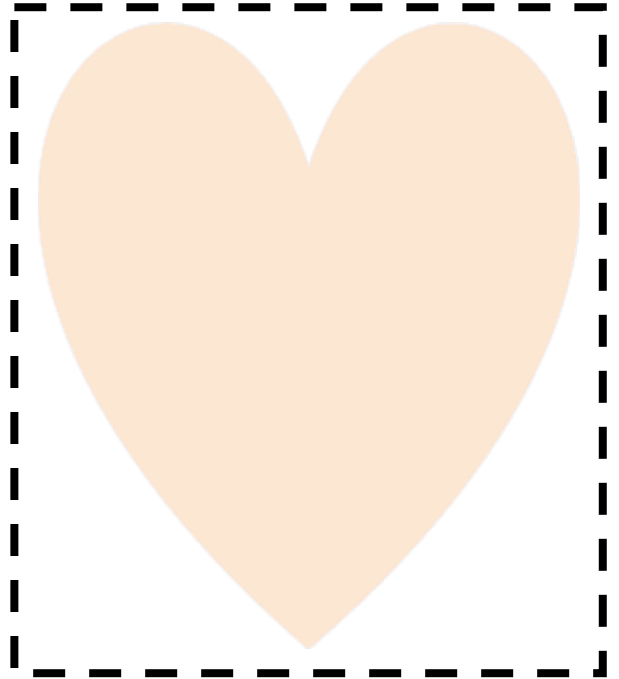
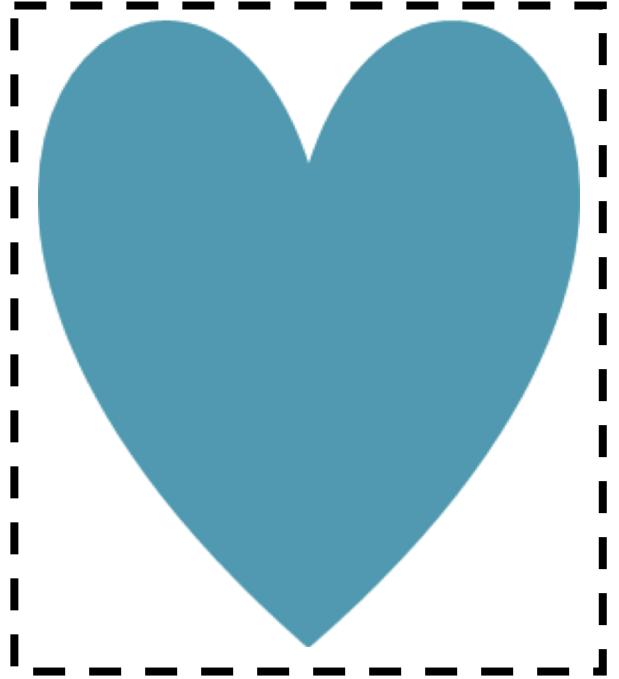
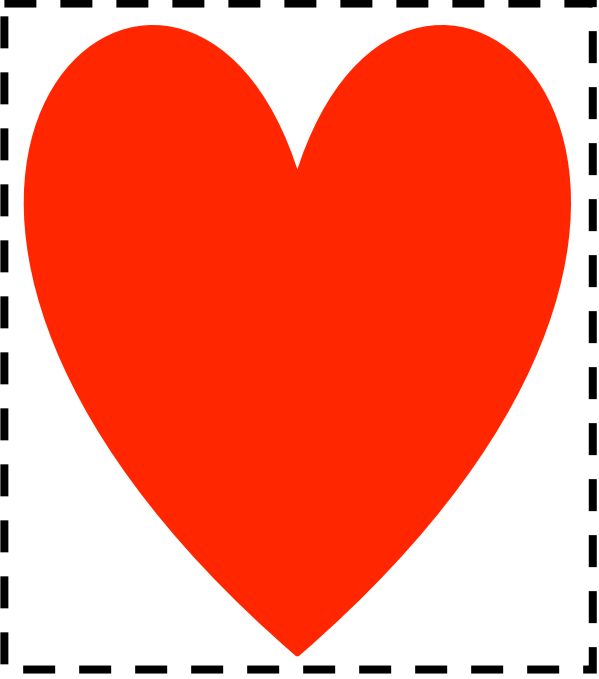
Dear God,

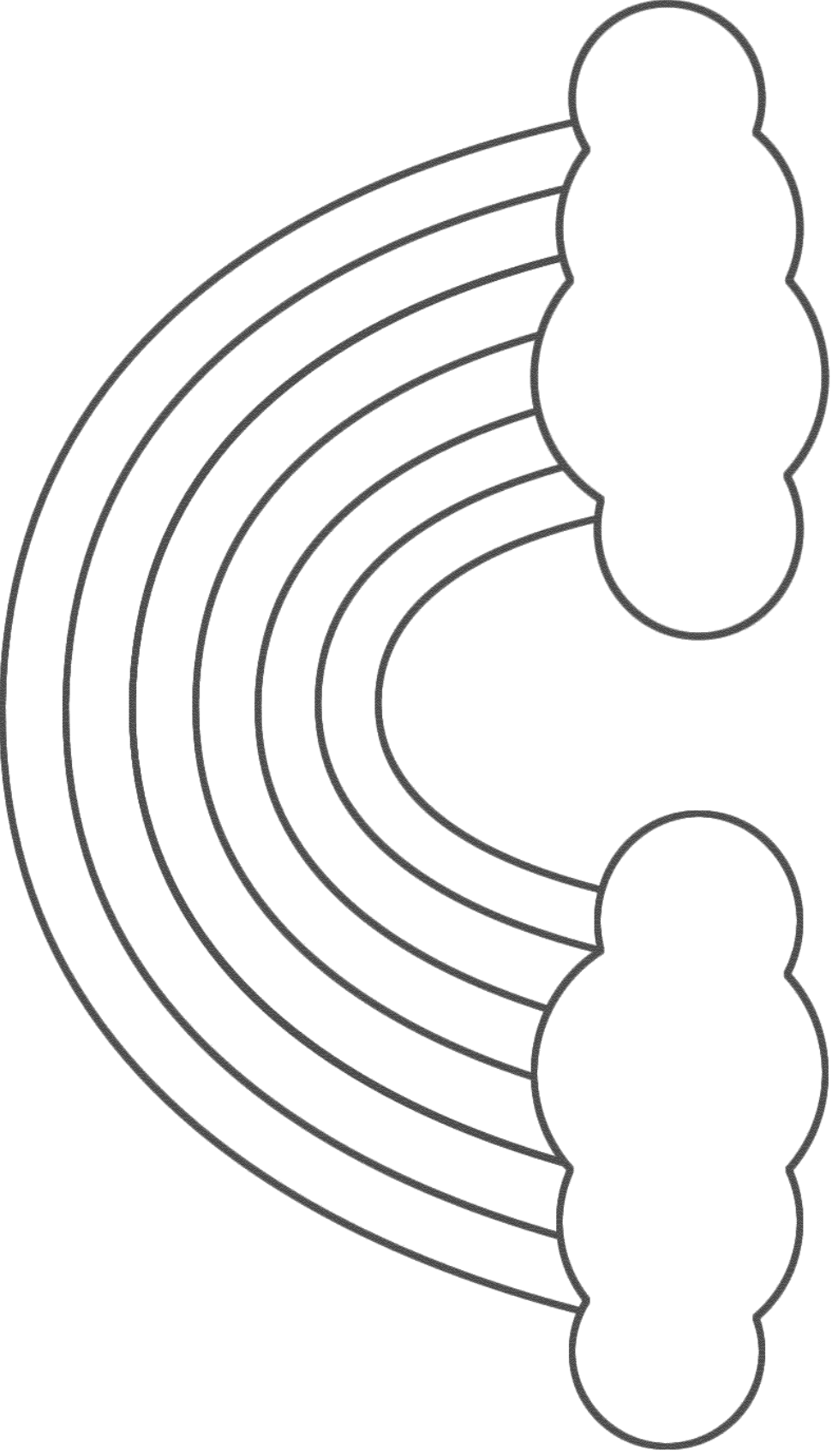
Thank you for your love.

Thank you for your promise.

Thank you for Loving ME!

Amen





God promises to Love ME!

2012 RTLCL Day Camp Preschool Bible Study

Day 2

GRACE=God’s Gracious, Unexpected and Sometimes, Shocking Surprises

Objective: Campers will learn God loves us in good times and bad.

Welcome: Teach the children a song that they will sing each day to welcome them and get them settled. Children LOVE music so add variety each day with silly voices, singing loud and soft, or high and low. And actions if you feel... the more you can appeal to their five senses, the better!

“Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”

Twinkle twinkle precious star
Jesus loves just who you are
He loves your smile
He loves your voice
Jesus thinks
you're special and nice
Twinkle twinkle precious star
Jesus loves just who you are

“B-I-N-G-O”

There is a God in heaven
above
Who gives love to me.
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
God gives me lots of love, yay!

Hook

*Have the children play a name game. Use a special item like a ball or another prop to be a “talking stick.” Roll a ball or pass the talking stick to each child and ask them to share their name.

*Another fun way to say hi to each camper is with the letter song. The tune is to the song “C is for cookie.” Simply use the camper’s first initial and their name:

“M for Marisa, that’s good enough for me (x3) Oh, Marisa, Marisa, Marisa starts with M.”

Once the children have all had a chance to say their name it is time to get their wiggles out. Stand up and “chugga” around the circle. Call the children one by one to join your “train.” Move all around the room or space as more children are called. Bring the train back to the carpet, tables, or circle area for BOOK.

Book: Start with a prayer that the children repeat after you.

Dear God,
Thank you for loving me when I am sad.
Thank you for loving me when I am glad.
Thank you for loving me when I play.
Thank you for loving me when I rest. Amen.

Yesterday we talked about someone who loves us. Do you remember who we said loves us? Yes those people love us and God loves us too! Today we are going to hear about that love.

Read 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

“⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no records of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Show this picture of friends:

Ask: Do you think these children are friends? How can you tell? What makes you say that?



Our verse says love is patient. Do we sometimes need to wait for our friends? Yes, that's the loving thing to do.

Our verse says love is NOT rude. Is it polite to use our manners with our friends? Yes, that's the loving thing to do also.

What is another way to be a loving friend? (Field answers)

Sometimes we make the choices without love. But, when we make a mistake God forgives us and still loves us, just like we love our friends if they make a mistake.

Took

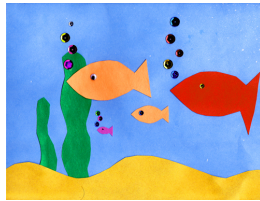
*Trace the children's hands on construction paper and have them color them. When they are finished coloring them, cut them out and make a friendship wreath. Remind the campers that God loves them and taught them how to love.



*Ask campers if they have ever had a bad day. Draw a Big Circle on paper. Ask the children what they have on their face (two eyes, nose, etc.) Do not put the mouth on yet. Use a small slip of paper to draw a smile but place it on the face as a frown. Ask the campers how the face is feeling. Did they know God loves them even when they are sad or having a bad day? Then show them how to turn that frown upside down (into a smile) because God loves them!

*Give children a fish shape to decorate. Tell them that a long time ago people would draw a fish in the sand to let other people know that they loved God. It was a way for them to find friends who loved God.

Fish Ideas: Paper plate, construction paper, fish scene



Closing prayer: Ask them to repeat after you

Dear God,
If I am happy,
If I am sad,
If I am silly,
If I am sleepy,
Thank you for your love.
Amen

2012 RTLCL Day Camp Preschool Bible Study

Day 3:

Freedom from Performance

Objective: Campers understand God made them special and gives us rest.

Welcome: Teach the children a song that they will sing each day to welcome them and get them settled. Children LOVE music so add variety each day with silly voices, singing loud and soft, or high and low. And actions if you feel... the more you can appeal to their five senses, the better!

"Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

Twinkle twinkle precious star
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There is a God in heaven
above
Who gives love to me.
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
Gods L-O-V-E
God gives me lots of love, yay!

Hook

*Have the children play a name game. Use a special item like a ball or another prop to be a "talking stick." Roll a ball or pass the talking stick to each child and ask them to share their name. Or, ask them to pick a friend (they should know each other's names now) and pass the object to the friend they named.

*Another fun way to say hi to each camper is with the letter song. The tune is to the song "C is for cookie." Simply use the camper's first initial and their name:

"M for Marisa, that's good enough for me (x3) Oh, Marisa, Marisa, Marisa starts with M."

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Book Start with a prayer that the children repeat after you.

Dear God,
Thank you for my family.
Thank you for my friends.

Thank you for loving me. Amen.

Yesterday we heard more about God's love for us and talked about how to treat our friends. Today we are going to hear about how God takes care of us and gives us rest. Let's listen to what the Bible says about God giving us rest.

Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says:

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

*Have you ever been sleepy? Do you have a bedtime? Do you do anything special before bedtime, like read a book or say your prayers?

*How do you feel when you wake up? Do you feel ready for the day? God wants to give you rest so you are ready to be yourself and love others like God loves us.

Took

*Cut apart a paper plate to create a crescent moon shape. Have the children decorate their moon shape. You may even add stars. Remind the campers that God loves them Day and Night. God gives us time to rest .



*On a large piece of paper trace one camper (they may wiggle!) Have the campers tell you what to add (eyes, nose, mouth, hair etc.) While you are drawing have the campers compare with each other. Do we all have the same eyes? Do we have the same hair? No, we are each made special and God loves us equally!

*Pass around a mirror and ask the kiddos what they like in the reflection? Remind the campers that they are wonderfully unique! No one else can look in a mirror and see the same thing.

Closing prayer: Ask them to repeat after you

Dear God,
Thank you
for making me special.
Thank you
For giving me rest
I love you
You are the best!
Amen

2012 RTLCL Day Camp Preschool Bible Study

Day 4:

Grace: God's Freedom to Perform

Objective: Campers learn to go and leave God's footprint in the world

Welcome: Teach the children a song that they will sing each day to welcome them and get them settled. Children LOVE music so add variety each day with silly voices, singing loud and soft, or high and low. And actions if you feel... the more you can appeal to their five senses, the better!

"Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

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Jesus loves just who you are
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"B-I-N-G-O"

There is a God in heaven
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Who gives love to me.
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God gives me lots of love, yay!

Hook

*Have the children play a name game. Use a special item like a ball or another prop to be a "talking stick." Roll a ball or pass the talking stick to each child and ask them to share their name. Or, ask them to pick a friend (they should know each other's names now) and pass the object to the friend they named.

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Book

Today we are going to hear a story about Mary doing something nice for Jesus.

Paraphrase, John 12:1-8 Mary anoints the feet of Jesus

Mary was a friend of Jesus and He was visiting her. Back then people wore sandals or did not wear any shoes. Jesus had very dusty feet when He came to Mary's house. So she wanted to wash His feet to welcome Him to her home. But she didn't use water! She used some perfume. She did not have to use perfume but she did. She even used her hair to dry His feet! She wanted Jesus to know that she loved Him.

*Mary showed Jesus a lot of love that day. Who are people we can show love to? How do we show love? (Field and encourage answers)

Took

*If possible, paint or trace and cut out the campers foot print. Make a banner that says "Leaving God's Footprints Wherever We Go." While working, discuss the feet in the story and how the campers can show God's love to others. Another option would be to make footprint cards to give to someone.



*Review the game Mystery blanket: You need a shirt or towel or something to place over the "love cards." Lay the cards down and say the color of each heart with the children. Cover up the cards and have the campers close their eyes. Carefully slide one card away and out of sight. Have campers open their eyes and guess which one is missing. (Have one child guess at a time or suggest they whisper at the same time)

* Have the campers sit in a circle. Then pick out all children that have buckle shoes (don't tell them) and they stand up. Have the children guess what each child has in common. Do the same with brown shoes, rubber sole shoes, white shoe laces, etc.

Closing prayer: Ask them to repeat after you

Dear God,

Thank you for loving me

From my head (touch your head)

To my feet (touch your feet)

I love you too (give yourself a hug)

You are really neat! (Thumbs up)

2012 RTLC Day Camp Preschool Bible Study

Day 5:

Grace in a Graceless World

Objective: Campers understand that God's grace is ours – and it is with us all the time.

Welcome: Teach the children a song that they will sing each day to welcome them and get them settled. Children LOVE music so add variety each day with silly voices, singing loud and soft, or high and low. And actions if you feel... the more you can appeal to their five senses, the better!

"Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

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He loves your smile
He loves your voice
Jesus thinks
you're special and nice
Twinkle twinkle precious star
Jesus loves just who you are

"B-I-N-G-O"

There is a God in heaven
above
Who gives love to me.
Gods L-O-V-E
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God gives me lots of love, yay!

Hook

*Have the children play a name game. Use a special item like a ball or another prop to be a "talking stick." Roll a ball or pass the talking stick to each child and ask them to share their name. Or, ask them to pick a friend (they should know each other's names now) and pass the object to the friend they named.

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Book

Today we are going to hear a story about some of Jesus' friends who got a little scared. Let's listen and see if you can tell me why they were scared.

Paraphrase, Matthew 14:28-33

28"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith, he said, why did you doubt?" 32And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33Then those who were in the boat worshiped him saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Did you hear why they were scared? Yes they were on a boat in a storm. But Jesus was there and reminded them that they do not have to be afraid. They can trust in God.

Took

***Before):** Prepare blue jello ahead of time and divide it into clear individual cups. Provide enough gummy bears so that each child has 2: one for Jesus and one for Peter.

(During) Invite students to read the story again, this time acting it out with the gummy bears and jello. When Peter begins to sink, push your Peter gummy bear ½ way into the jello. Have your Jesus bear stay on top of the jello and pull Peter out. After acting out, pass out spoons and enjoy the treat.

***Sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"** Help the children pick a partner and sit together. Encourage them to hold hand and rock back and forth while you sing.

***Put chairs together in two rows to make a boat.** Have the campers get into the boat. Pretend you are all out on a nice day (fishing, enjoying the sun, looking for birds, etc.) Uhoh! It's starting to rain! What should we do? Next, help the campers act out the story.

Closing prayer: Have the campers repeat after you (you could also hold hands and make waves during the prayer).

Dear God,
Thank you for your love and grace.
Thank you for being there for me.
Thank you for my new friends.
I love you.
Amen.