

# THE WAY

## STUDY GUIDE

## Week 1 – May 31, 2026:

## With Love – John 13:34–35

### 1. Let's Say Hello! (Greeting)

Say: Hi everyone! I am so excited we are all together today.

Ask: How was everyone's week? (Good, hard, thumbs up/down)

Ask: Can you think of a person that makes you feel loved? (yes, no) Can you think about what they do that makes you feel so loved? It can be the way they care for you, talk to you, play with you, remember things you like, etc.

Say: Today we will be learning about what Jesus says is the most important things are. Jesus tells us to love God and love other people.

### 2. Let's Read the Verse! (Bible Moment)

Say: Let's read God's word together.

Read slowly: John 13:34–35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Simple Summary: Jesus gives us a command. A command is like a rule. Jesus gives us a rule to follow. He tells us we must love God and love other people, just like Jesus loves us.

### 3. Let's Learn the Big Idea!

Say: Let's practice our Big Idea together.

Repeat each line together

Jesus loves me.

I can love God.

I can love other people.

### 4. Let's Sign the Verse! (Teach Simple Signs)

Say: Let's practice our verse together (Love God and love people)

Repeat the verse and motions multiple times. This is a short sentence summary of the verses read previously. Praise effort!



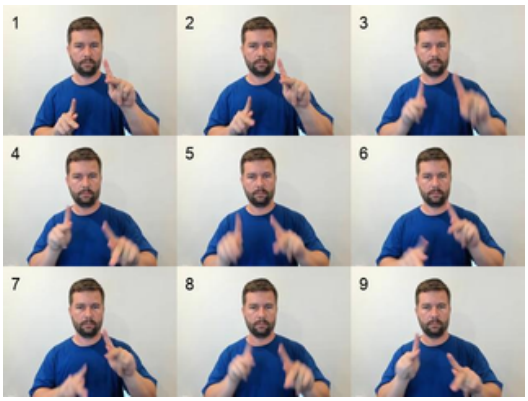

Love




God




Love




People

## 5. Let's Talk About It! (Simple Questions)

Use yes/no, this/that, or one-word answers!

- Can you show others love? (yes/no)
- Showing love can be by being kind to others (do this or that OR yes/no to go over some ways to be kind and show love)
  - Picking up something someone dropped, walking away
  - Saying hi, not answering someone
  - Telling someone you don't like their shirt, giving a compliment
  - Laughing at others, saying something kind
  - Inviting someone to sit with you, let someone sit alone
  - Calling someone by their name, calling someone a name they don't like
- Has someone ever helped you when it was hard for them? (yes/no)
  - How did it make you feel? (Good, bad, sad, happy, loved)
- Let's think of a way we can help someone this week!
  - One way I can help someone this week is by _____.

## 6. Let's Make a Craft! – "Empty Tomb Hope Page"

Say: Let's do a craft together. Our craft today will be working together to make a paper chain of kindness. On each strip there is an idea on how to show love. Let's decorate it and make a chain! We can always be kind and show others how Jesus loves!

Read through the items on the chain as you pas*s them out! They can decorate with bright colors! Premade chain ideas here*

### 7. Let's Pray Together!

Say: Let's pray together. Jesus, thank you for loving me. Thank you for caring for me. Jesus, I ask that you give me the strength to love other people well. I pray that we all show kindness to the people you put in our life. We love you, Lord. Amen.

### Next Step (Simple + Practical)

This week, look for a chance to do something kind for a person around you. A moment to be patient, to forgive, to say something nice, to share, or to invite.

CRAFT LINK: CLICK ME

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## Week 2 – June 7, 2026:

## With Humility – 1 Peter 5:5

### 1. Let's Say Hello! (Greeting)

Say: Hi guys! So excited to see you today!

Ask: How did everyone do with their next step last week? (Good, hard, I forgot) Does anyone want to share what they did that was kind?

Say: Today we will be learning about

### 2. Let's Read the Verse! (Bible Moment)

Say: Let's read God's word together!

Read slowly: 1 Peter 5:5

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

Simple Summary: Jesus calls us to be humble. He shows us what being humble looks like. Being humble can look like not always being first, not trying to be the most important, and caring for other friends well. Being humble means we think of other people, not just ourselves.

### 3. Let's Learn the Big Idea!

Say: Let's practice our Big Idea together!

Repeat each line together.

I can be humble

I can care for other people

I can be more like Jesus

**4. Let's Sign the Verse! (Teach Simple Signs)**

Say: Let's practice our verse together!

Repeat the verse and motions multiple times. This is a short sentence summary of the verses read previously. Praise effort!

"I can be humble"



I



Can be



Humble

## 5. Let's Talk About It! (Simple Questions)

Use yes/no, this/that, or one-word answers!

Say: Humility looks like lettings others go first, listening to others when they are talking, helping others, saying "I'm sorry", and caring about others' needs.

- Do you always need to be first? (yes/no)
- Can you help other people? (yes/no)
- Is it kind to listen to others when they are talking? (yes/no)
- Can you think of a time someone was kind to you? (yes/no)
    - What did they do? How did it feel?

## 6. Let's Make a Craft! – "Jesus Knows My Name" Hope Card

Say: Let's do a craft together! Our craft today will be a pocket reminder. This is a card you can keep in your pocket, Bible, or on your nightstand. We will write "Be Humble" on it and you can decorate it. When you see it, you will remember to be humble and care for others like Jesus cares for you!

Optional: write ways to be humble on the back as talking points with a trusted adult

Supplies: colored paper (half or fourth), pens, markers, crayons

## 7. Let's Pray Together!

Say: Let's pray together. Jesus, thank you for all you have done for us. We thank you for how much you care for each of us. We pray that this week we can be like you and be helpful hands, kind friends, and show others Your love. Amen.

## Next Step (Simple + Practical)

Say: This week,

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## Week 3 – June 14, 2026:

## With Hospitality – 1 Peter 4:9–11

### 1. Let's Say Hello! (Greeting)

Say: "Hi everyone! I am so happy you are here today."

Ask: How did everyone do with their next step last week? (Good, hard, I forgot)

Ask: Can you remember a time when someone was kind to you? (yes/no) How do you feel when someone is kind to you? (Happy, sad, loved, cared for, mad, safe, excited)

Say: Today we will be learning about how God gives us gifts to help other people!

### 2. Let's Read the Verse! (Bible Moment)

Say: "Let's read God's word together"

Read slowly: 1 Peter 4: 9–11

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Simple Summary: Help other people with the gifts God has given you. Give God glory in all you do.

### 3. Let's Learn the Big Idea!

Say: "Let's practice our Big Idea together"

Repeat each line together

God gives me gifts.

I can use my gifts to help others.

Helping others gives God glory.

### 4. Let's Sign the Verse! (Teach Simple Signs)

Say: "Let's practice our verse together"

Repeat the verse and motions multiple times. This is a short sentence summary of the verses read previously. Praise effort!

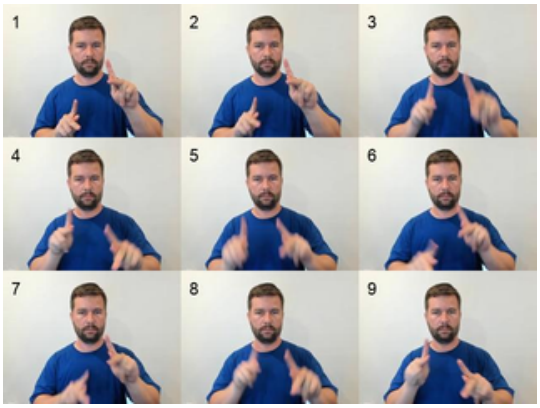
God's gifts for other people!




God (arch hand)




Gift (bend hands away)




People (move hands in small circle motion)

Leader tip: Expand simply how we can use our gifts (things we are good at) to help others (be kind, serve them, help them, being generous).

## 5. Let's Talk About It! (Simple Questions)

Use yes/no, this/that, or one- word answers!

- Does God give each person different gifts or things they are good at? (yes)
- Should we keep our gifts to ourselves? (no)
- Who should we share our gifts with? (other people)
    - OR Can we share our gift with other people) (yes)
- Can our gifts help others? (yes)
- Short shares: (give examples as needed)
    - One thing I am good at is _____.
    - One way I can help others is by _____.

### 6. Let's Make a Craft! – "Road to Truth" Path Page

Say: "Let's do a craft together. Our craft today will be decorating hands. This is a reminder that we can use our hands to help others and make them feel loved, just like the Bible teaches us."

Option 1: Trace each person's hands on the paper and have them decorate their hands with colors, stickers, or help them write ways they can help others such as sharing, helping clean, being kind, listening."

Option 2: Use the printout of hands to do the same idea (minus the tracing)

### 7. Let's Pray Together!

Say: "Let's pray together. Jesus, thank you for all the eway you love me. Thank you for giving me things I am good at. Thank you for giving me the power to help others and show them love. Please give me the power to love people, help people, and share Your love. Amen."

**End encouragement:** "Jesus is with you. Jesus helps you. Jesus shows you the truth."

### Next Step (Simple + Practical)

This week, use one of your gifts to be kind to someone and help them. Remind them that Jesus loves them.

*Optional: Share ideas on what each person can do based on what you know about them! Example: "Sally, you are gifted in making people smile when you say kind things. When you are at Publix this week, give the cashier a compliment."*

Hand Craft: here

## Week 4 – June 21, 2026:

## With Grace – Ephesians 4:1–6

### 1. Let's Say Hello! (Greeting)

Say: "Hello! I am so glad you are here today. I am excited to study the Bible with you!"

Ask: How did it go with last week's Next Step? (good, hard, I forgot)

Ask: Have you ever been surprised with a gift? (yes/no)

Ask: Have you heard of grace? (yes/no)

Say: Today we will be learning about the God's grace. That God shows us grace, and we should show grace to other people. Showing God's grace means being kind, patient, and loving. Our big idea is "God is kind to me, so I can be kind to others".

### 2. Let's Read the Verse! (Bible Moment)

Say: Let's read God's word together.

Read slowly: Ephesians 4:1–6

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Simple Summary:** Show kindness to other people the way God has shown kindness to you.

### 3. Let's Learn the Big Idea!

Say: Let's practice our Big Idea together

Repeat each line together

God is kind to me.

I can be kind to others.

### 4. Let's Sign the Verse! (Teach Simple Signs)

Say: Let's practice our verse together

Repeat the verse and motions multiple times. This is a short sentence summary of the verses read previously. Praise effort!

"God is kind. I am kind"




God




Is kind (this is the sign for nice)

Point to yourself for “I am”




kind (this is the sign for nice)

## 5. Let's Talk About It! (Simple Questions)

Use yes/no, this/that, or one-word answers!

Say: Now lets talk about what we have read and learned!

- Is God kind to us? (yes)
- Can we be kind to other people? (yes)
- Can we show kindness every day? (yes)
- Which is kind?
    - Sharing or taking things
    - Rushing or being patient
    - Saying "I forgive you" or staying upset forever
- Short shares:
    - It is kind to _____.
    - I can show my friends God loves them by being _____. (kind, loving, patient, nice)

## 6. Let's Make a Craft!

Say: Let's do a craft together. Our craft today will be decorating a heart. The heart will remind us that God is kind to use when He showed us grace. We can be kind to other people just like God was kind to us."

Draw or cut out a heart and have everyone decorate it with crayons, markers, dot markers, or stickers. Write "God is kind to me, I am kind to others" in or around the heart. Other options would be to write ways to be kind in the hearts!

## 7. Let's Pray Together!

Say: Let's pray together. Jesus, thank you for your grace. Thank you God for how much you love us and how kind you are. Please help me be kind and show love to all the people around me. We love you. Amen."

## Next Step (Simple + Practical)

This week, if you feel frustrated or upset, pause and ask God to help you be patient and kind.

## Week 5 – June 28, 2026:

## From the Word of Christ – Colossians 3:16

### 1. Let's Say Hello! (Greeting)

Say: Good morning! So happy you are here! I can't wait to learn from the Bible today with you!

Ask: How are you today? (Good, not great)

Ask: How did everyone do with their next step last week? (Good, hard, I forgot)

Say: Today we will be learning about

### 2. Let's Read the Verse! (Bible Moment)

Say: Let's read the Bible together!

Read slowly: Colossians 3:16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Simple Summary: Sometimes we can forget things. God's Word, or the Bible can remind us of what is true and what is good. We can remember what is true and remember who Jesus is by listening to worship songs, talking about Him, reading the Bible, and encouraging each other. The Bible tells us what is true.

### 3. Let's Learn the Big Idea!

Say: Let's practice our Big Idea together!

Repeat each line together.

The Bible tells me what is true.

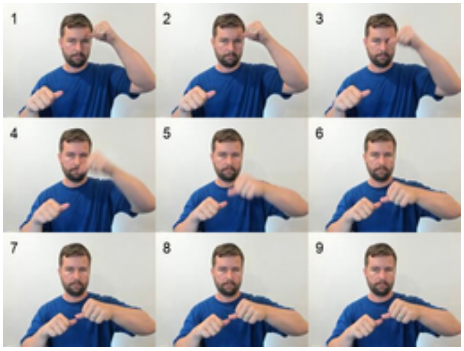
Jesus loves me.

## 4. Let's Sign the Verse! (Teach Simple Signs)

Say: Let's practice our verse together!

Repeat the verse and motions multiple times. This is a short sentence summary of the verses read previously. Praise effort!

"Remember God's true words"



Remember



God's



True



Word

*Optional: Instead of the sign for "word" you could put both palms together and open them to symbolize opening a Bible. This would connect His Word as the Bible!*

### 5. Let's Talk About It! (Simple Questions)

Use yes/no, this/that, or one-word answers!

Say: A really important truth we see through reading to the Bible is that Jesus loves us, Jesus forgives us, Jesus is always with us, and He helps us!

- Do you know that you are never alone? (yes/no)
  - Why? Because God is with you!
- Do you know that you are important? (yes/no)
  - Why? Because God loves you!
- Do you know you can do hard things? (yes/no)
  - Why? Because God helps you!
- What helps you remember the truth? (this/that options below)
  - Worship songs OR listening to the Bible
  - Worship songs OR coming to group
  - Reading the Bible OR praying

### 6. Let's Make a Craft! – "I Believe" Heart Card

Say: Let's color together! This paper says, "God's Word says what is true". What do you see on the paper? A Bible and a check mark! That will remind us that the Bible is God's Word and it is true and good!

Supplies: coloring sheets, markers, crayons

*Could also play different worship songs that show how music can remind us of God's truth!

### 7. Let's Pray Together!

Say: Let's pray! Dear Jesus, thank you for the gift of your Word. Thank you for worship music, teachers, and other ways to be reminded who You are and who we are. Thank you for always being with us. We love you. Amen.

### Next Step (Simple + Practical)

Say: This week, when you are feeling sad or you are forgetting what is true, remind yourself that Jesus loves you, Jesus is with you, and Jesus helps you. Then, tell a trusted person so you can be reminded of God's truth together!

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