



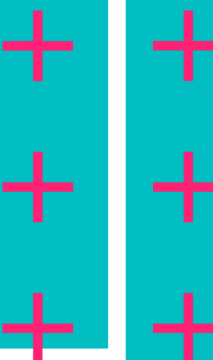
THROW BACK.



FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

It's always good to be

humble.





It's always good to be

humble.

Matthew 7:1-5; John 20:19-31

Wassup everyone! Welcome to our new series, Throwback. Each week, we'll go back in time and see that the things Jesus taught are always trending because Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Jesus compared a speck of sawdust (Matthew 7:1-5) — which is tiny — and a plank — which is much bigger — to show that humans have this habit of judging others. Even though we all carry imperfections and mistakes, we notice them in others more quickly.

So Jesus taught a different way to live. Instead of judging others for even the smallest thing, he invited people to be humble — like Jesus was. Jesus could have constantly pointed out everything everyone around him was doing wrong, especially since he was perfect, but he didn't do that.

Instead, he made friends with people nobody else did. He cared for others and put their needs above his own. Jesus showed us that being humble is a good trend to follow!

What does it mean to be humble? You might have heard it's thinking less of yourself, but actually, it's more like thinking of yourself . . . less. You don't have to put yourself down or say you're not good at stuff. You can stay awesome and, at the same time, recognize that other people are awesome, too. Instead of putting others down or making fun of them when they make mistakes, we can remember that we are all human. One way we can be humble is to encourage other people. Celebrate each other's wins and cheer each other on. Nowadays, it's as easy as typing out and sending a kind message.

So in the 2000's, shades (Sunglasses!) were a big deal. In addition to wearing shades, people began "throwing shade." Now that definitely didn't mean throwing your super cool sunglasses! "Throwing shade" meant you would talk negatively about someone or something they did, right in front of them.

In this passage (John 20:19-31) it's easy for us to throw at least a little shade at Thomas for not believing that Jesus was alive. Jesus was patient, however. Jesus helped Thomas see and believe.

It's easy to throw shade at other people. It's easy to see what they're doing wrong more than what we're doing wrong. But we're not better than anyone else, not in God's eyes.

In God's eyes, in which there is neither speck nor plank, we are loved the same.

If we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, we can learn to be patient and understanding with others, just as Jesus was with Thomas and still is with us. We can admit we don't always have the answers, and that makes us humble.

And it's always good to be humble!



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- What do you think it means to judge others?
 - Why does Jesus tell us not to do this?
- What example did Jesus use to explain how people judge others?
- What did Jesus mean when he said to take the plank out of your own eye?
- Read John 20:29
 - How do you think Thomas felt when he finally saw Jesus after doubting what his friends told him? Do you think he felt humble? How so?
- What do you think it means to be humble?
- Why is it hard to encourage others sometimes?
- What are some ways you can lift others up, especially when you don't feel like it?



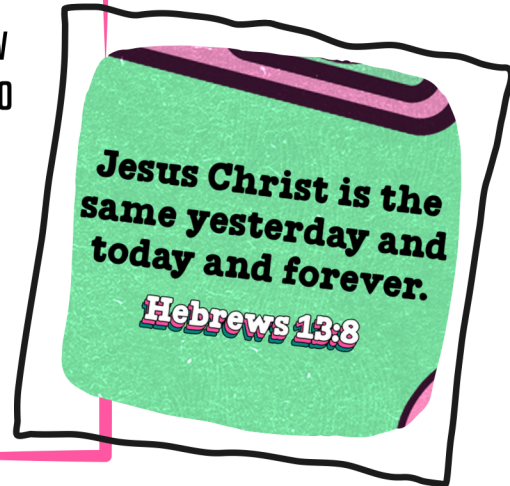
WORSHIP

“Same God”

Elevation Worship

“The Bible is a Treasure Book”

Bible Study Fellowship



ELEMENTARY

Let's review what we talked about today in true 2000's fashion . . . Mad Libs!

No matter how silly your story turns out, remember our Big Idea: It's always good to be humble.

Use the provided printable and work in pairs to first give each other a list of words as instructed without looking at the story. Fill out the numbered blanks in the story and take turns reading them out loud!

For younger kids, you can do it together as a group.

Describe what each part of speech is and provide examples they can choose from.

PRESCHOOL




When we take time to look for ways others are making good choices, it helps us cheer them up instead of bringing them down.

Help kids make their own magnifying glasses with two paper dessert plates, a jumbo craft stick, and a piece of transparency film. Hollow out the plate by making an incision from any edge and cutting along the inner border. Tape the ends of the circular frames back together for both circles. Trace and cut out from the transparency film a slightly smaller circle than the plate.

Glue it on top of one of the plate frames and also attach the craft stick. Paste the second plate on top to conceal the insides. Allow kids to decorate with crayons, markers, and stickers. Scan QR code for a worked example.

Hold up your magnifying glass up to your eye and say it with me: It's always good to be humble!





MAD LIBS RECAP

1. Adjective + est (Example: coolest): _____

2. Plural noun (Example: boats): _____

3. Adjective: _____

4. Verb: _____

5. Noun: _____


6. Verb + ing (Example: running): _____

7. Plural noun: _____

8. Adjective: _____

9. Adjective + er (Example: stronger): _____

10. Verb: _____



MAD LIBS RECAP

Today, we learned a little about life in the

_____ decade, the 2000s. I think the

①

_____ back then were pretty _____.

②

③

I can't believe that people used to _____

④

their _____ to school. Most importantly, we

⑤

learned about something Jesus taught, which never

goes out of style, like _____

⑥

_____. Instead of judging people for their

⑦

_____ mistakes or thinking we're

⑧

_____ than them, it's always good to be

⑨

humble! Can't wait to _____ what else we

⑩

can learn from Jesus!



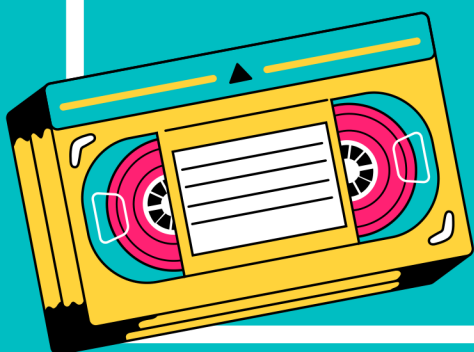
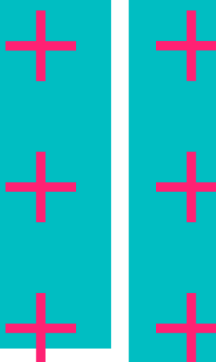
THROW BACK



FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

We can always

forgive.





We can always **forgive.**

Matthew 18:23-35; 1 John 3:1-7

Sup homies! Welcome back to Throwback! Each week, we'll go back in time and see that the things Jesus taught are always trending because Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! This week, we're going back to the 1990's! Are you ready for the 411? I mean, let's check this out!

We'll see from this week's Bible story that when we choose not to forgive, it can be worse for us than rotting teeth! Let's find out more.

In Matthew 18:23-35, The first servant was forgiven a giant debt that he could never hope to pay back. Even if he worked really hard nonstop for the rest of his life, he would never be able to pay it all back. And even though he was forgiven of this impossible debt, he failed to show mercy to someone who owed him a much smaller debt. Jesus was trying to show the people that God had forgiven them all of something much bigger — their sins. This is something nobody else could forgive, and it was a debt they can never pay back.

Knowing this, they should show their gratitude by being kind and forgiving to others. And we can do the same. Jesus showed us that forgiving others is a good trend to follow!

We will sometimes have to forgive others when it might not feel convenient to us. Maybe we just don't feel like it or we think their apology wasn't good enough. If you ignore those opportunities to forgive, you might ruin a friendship for good.

We always ask God to forgive us, and no matter how many times we ask, God always does. If we remember how lovingly and endlessly God forgives us, we, too, can always forgive.

Beanie Babies were really popular in the 90's! Some Beanie Babies would be easy to find but others were a little harder. Some Beanie Babies were worth a lot of money. So if you wanted one of them, there was a great price to pay.

Now, imagine if someone just handed you an entire box of Beanie Babies. Not because you deserved it. Just because. Even if you're not a fan of these adorable collectibles, you'd be shocked at how much it's worth! Would you be able to believe that someone would just give something so valuable to you?

That's how God gives us love and forgiveness. 1 John 3 tells us that it's a luxurious gift that we didn't deserve or earn, but verse 5 tells us that Jesus "appeared so that he might take away our sins." It's something only Jesus could do because he is the only one who is truly righteous and without sin.

Even though you might not want to do this with your vintage Beanie Babies, God's forgiveness is a gift we can open and share with others. We can always forgive because we have been forgiven, too.



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- What did the king do for the servant who owed ten thousand bags of gold?
- What did the first servant do to his fellow servant who owed one hundred silver coins?
- Why did the king hand the first servant over to the jailers?
- Read 1 John 3:1
 - How is it possible that we can be called children of God?
- Why can we always forgive?
- What happens when we hold grudges for a long time?
- Knowing that Jesus forgave us and continues to forgive, what are some things you can do to show forgiveness?



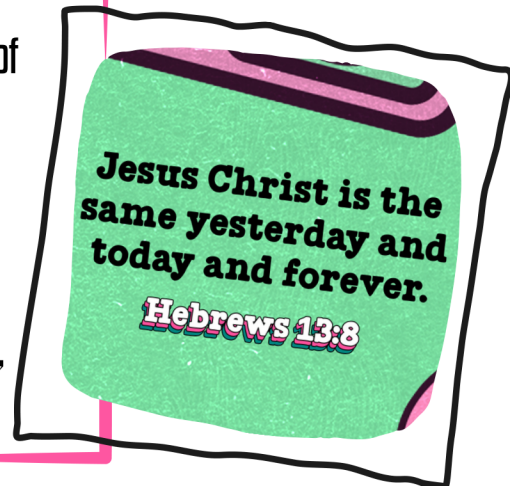
WORSHIP

“Lord Help Me Forgive”

Sovereign Grace Kids

“God’s Great Dance Floor”

Chris Tomlin



ELEMENTARY

People didn't have smartphones in the 90's so if you wanted to take photos, you would have to use a camera that contained a roll of film. Once you used up the entire roll, you would take it to a place where they would develop the photos from the film strips, or negatives. People held on to the negatives in case they wanted to print more copies of the photos.

When it comes to forgiveness though, we don't have to hold onto the negative things. Using the Printable provided, in each of these film squares, write or draw some things that will remind you of all the things we talked about this week (including those wild 90's trends!).

Don't forget to add today's Big Idea in there:
We can always forgive.

PRESCHOOL



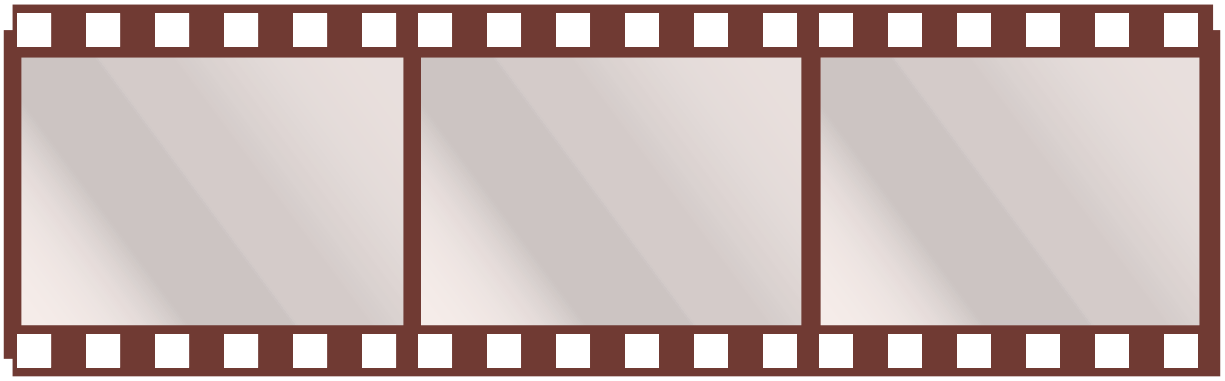
Get toilet paper tubes (one roll should yield two to three bracelets) and mark them to the widths you want for each of your bracelets.

Cut along the lines. Decorate the bracelets with alphabet stickers that spell "forgive," markers, and heart stamps.

Loosely wrap the strip around their wrists and secure it with clear tape or glue. Scan QR code for a worked example.

The letters on your bracelet spell the word "forgive." Showing forgiveness means that we can give someone another chance to make a better choice. Jesus taught us that we can always forgive.







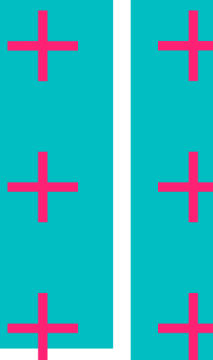
THROW BACK



FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Jesus is always

fair.





Jesus is always

fair.

Matthew 20:1-16; John 10:11-18

Yo, pals! What's crackalackin'? Welcome back to Throwback! Each week, we'll go back in time and see that the things Jesus taught are always trending because Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! This week, we're going back to the 1980's! Isn't that gnarly? Let's motor!

Sometimes our idea of "fair" changes with how we're feeling at the time. Let's take a look at the Bible story to learn about God's idea of fairness.

Matthew 20:1-16 (The Workers in the Vineyard)

I feel like I could understand what the vineyard workers are feeling, especially the ones who got there super early. It doesn't seem fair that someone who only worked one hour should get the same pay as someone who worked all day.

Jesus told this parable to get people to think differently about fairness. The early arrivals were getting fair pay. If they didn't know what everyone else was getting paid, they wouldn't have complained. The vineyard owner was already being generous. It just seems even more generous when someone didn't work as hard for it. God doesn't give according to what we think is fair and not fair. God is generous enough to give us what we need and even more generous that someone else may get more than we do.

But this parable isn't really about God giving us stuff . . . it's about how God welcomes everyone to know God. God's idea of fairness is that everyone should have the same amount of chances to experience God's love. Now that's fair!

In this week's Bible story, it might not have seemed fair on the surface that everyone got paid the same even though some worked hard and some hardly worked at all, but it wasn't a story about what people earn and deserve. It's a story about how generous God is. We know this because God gave Jesus to everyone even though none of us earned or deserved him. Everybody has a chance to connect with God and nobody is left out. Jesus is always fair.

Jesus understands what "not fair" feels like. After all, Jesus was unfairly arrested and sentenced to death . . . he had done nothing wrong! But even though people had treated Jesus terribly while he was on earth, he wanted to show the way God loves, anyway.

In this passage (John 10:11-18), Jesus talks about himself as a good shepherd who would give his own life for the sheep (that's us, by the way). Not just for the sheep that are in his sheep pen — that is, people who love and follow Jesus. He says in verse sixteen that he wants to bring sheep who are not part of his pen . . . people who don't know God.

When Jesus died and rose again, it wasn't only for some people. It was for everyone. No one is excluded — not even the people who returned videos without rewinding them, even though that was so not cool. Jesus was and is always fair.



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- How much did the landowner agree to pay each worker?
- How much did the workers who worked all day and the ones who worked only one hour get paid?
- Do you think the landowner was being fair to the workers?
 - Why or why not?
- Read John 10:14–16
 - How is this an example of Jesus being fair?
- How is Jesus' idea of fairness different than ours?
- What is the gift Jesus wants to give us, and why can't we earn it?
- What is one way we can be fair the way Jesus is?



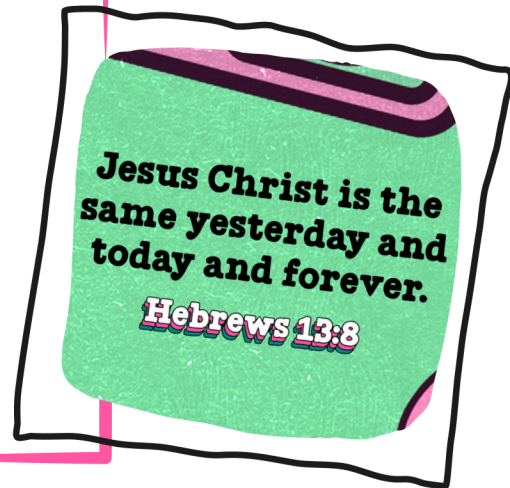
WORSHIP

"I've Got Good News"

Bryan and Katie Torwalt

"Jesus is Alive"

Singin' Praise Tots



ELEMENTARY

PRESCHOOL



This was a really popular toy in the 80's, but even now, it's more of a puzzle challenge than a toy.

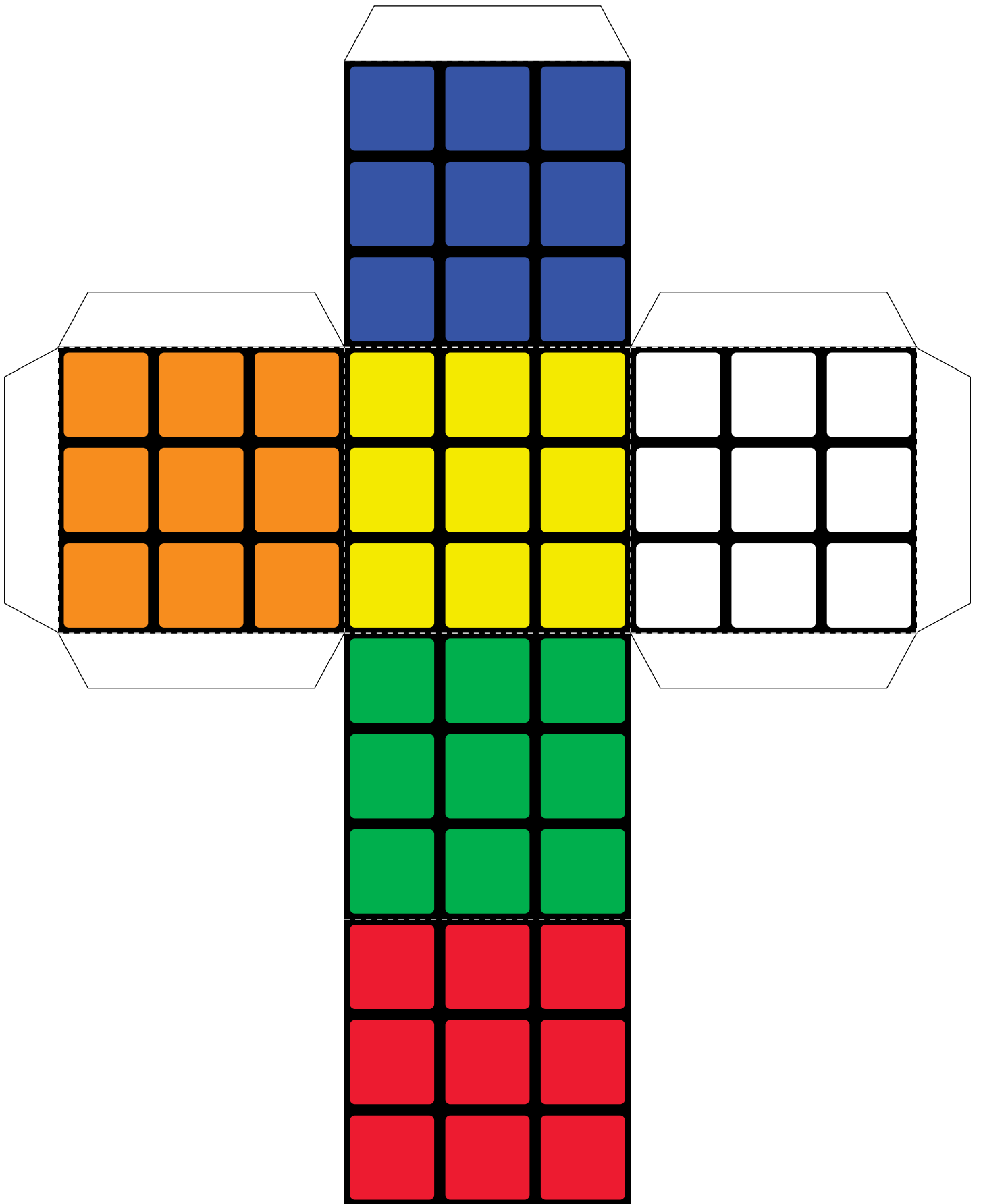
Now you could go online and find solutions and learn how to solve a cube. This little riddle now became fair game for everybody!

Using the printable color the cubes however they want. Fold the cube into a box.

After you assemble and decorate your Rubik's Cube box, write down a few words or draw a few images on separate pieces of paper that will remind you of everything we talked about today.

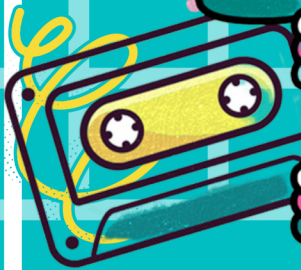
Don't forget to include the Big Idea: Jesus is always fair.







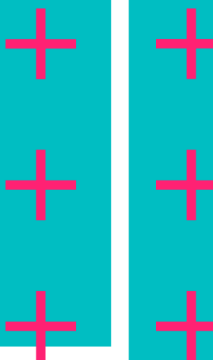
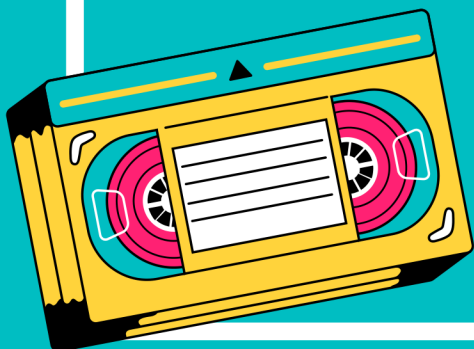
THROW BACK



FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Love

always needs action.





Love

always needs action.

Luke 16:19-31; 1 John 4:7-21

What it is, my friends? Welcome back to Throwback! This is our final week of going back in time and seeing that the things Jesus taught are always trending because Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

This week, we'll make one more groovy trip way, way, back to the 70's — the decade of peace and love! It's gonna be far out! This week's Bible story is about someone who did pretty much just sit there while other people could have used his help! (Luke 16:19-31)

It's hard not to feel sorry for the rich man who now had to spend eternity in a terrible place, but he was sorry too late. He had plenty of opportunities while he was still living to love others, but he blew it by only caring about himself and looking down on people like Lazarus.

Jesus taught everyone to love but not just with words — with solid actions, while we still can! He showed us with how he lived his own life, and it's a good trend for us to follow, too!

The rich man from the Bible story saw Lazarus sitting at his gate every day but never noticed him or cared enough about him. It was easy for him to think someone else could help Lazarus while he focused on himself.

It's easy to get caught up in our own lives and think that putting love into action is someone else's problem. For followers of Jesus, that's not a good look or attitude to have. When people don't know us, before they identify us as "the person wearing red" or "the one wearing glasses," they should be able to identify us as someone demonstrating love. Because love always needs action!

In the same way, nobody has seen God but they can in a way when they see God's love living in us. This passage (1 John 4:7-21) tells us that love comes directly from God because God is love. We know how to love because God showed us how to love first.

**We can choose to show love to others through our actions. When others see us being kind, compassionate, patient, forgiving, and helping, they are able to see a glimpse of what God is like! On the flip side, when we don't love and act in very unloving ways, we are acting as though we don't know God at all. We're not letting others get to know God through us.
Love always needs action!**

Jesus taught us that love is more than talk. Love always needs action, and merely thinking about loving others isn't the same as loving them through action!



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- How differently did the rich man and Lazarus live?
- Where did Lazarus go after he died?
 - What about the rich man?
- What did the rich man ask Abraham?
- Read 1 John 4:11–12
 - How can people see God through us?
- What is one thing we do to show we love God?
- When might it be hard to show love to someone?
- What are some neat things you can do to show someone you love them?



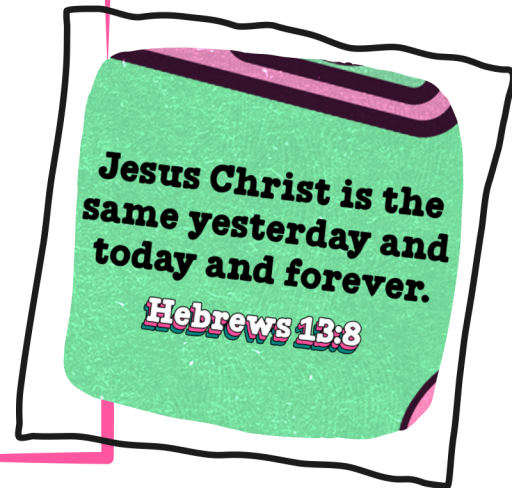
WORSHIP

“Yesterday, Today, and Forever (Hebrews 13:8)”

Seeds Family Worship

“Trust in Jesus”

Lifeway Kids Worship



ELEMENTARY

PRESCHOOL



Memorize our monthly verse together as a family!

Using the printable and a number two pencil.
Recite the verse together.

“Shake” a word off by shading over it with the pencil.

Now keep reciting the verse without that word.

Keep going until all the words are “erased”.

Once you have a blank page...Who in your family can
recite the whole thing?

Using the coloring page provided
along with crayons or markers.

Color the printable while reviewing
this week’s Bible story, Big Idea,
and memory verse.

JESUS CHRIST
IS THE SAME
YESTERDAY AND
TODAY AND
FOREVER.
HEBREWS 13:8





BIG IDEA: Love always needs action.

BIBLE: The Rich Man and Lazarus: Luke 16:19–31