

2023 Jr. RBI Spiritual Development Curriculum: Week 8

Theme for the Year: What is LOVE?

Verse for the Year: “Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not want what belongs to others. It does not brag. It is not proud. It does not dishonor other people. It does not look out for its own interests. It does not easily become angry. It does not keep track of other people’s wrongs.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 NIRV

Weekly “Love Challenge”: *Do you know the love of Jesus?*

(This final devotional involves a call to salvation and may not be appropriate for all teams/age groups, particularly T-ball. If so, feel free to make this final week your own. Just be sure to repeat the verse of the year one more time and say a prayer over your kiddos. The power of God’s Word and prayer in our kids’ lives cannot be overstated!)

We’ve been talking all season about love. We learned to love by being patient, kind, not wanting others’ things, showing respect, not bragging, being unselfish, and not getting angry. Hopefully throughout the season we have all grown together in these areas and learned to better show love to others. At the end of the day, it is because of the love of God through Jesus Christ that we know what real love is. The Apostle Paul says this in Romans 5:8, “But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Over 2000 years ago, God sent his only son Jesus to die for us because of how much he loves us. Isn’t that the most amazing thing? Because of Jesus, we are able to experience the perfect love of God the Father every day. Regardless of how we finish our season this year, or what grades you get in school in the fall, or whether or not you get all of your chores done this week; God will always love you! That’s the most important message any of us could ever receive. When we

close in prayer today, I'm going to give everyone a chance to receive the gift of God's love through Jesus Christ. With our eyes closed, I'll ask for a raise of hands from whoever wants to know Jesus as their Savior today. Then we'll all pray a salvation prayer together, even if you've already done so before. Sound good? Okay, everyone bow their heads and close their eyes.

Weekly Prayer Prompt:

(With heads bowed and eyes closed, ask for a show of hands of who would like to receive the gift of Jesus as their Savior today. Then ask EVERYONE who is willing and able to repeat this salvation prayer with you. I know this will push some of you out of your comfort zones, but this is what RBI Austin is all about! Even if one player on your team commits to Christ, or even has the seed of God's love planted in their hearts, this year's spiritual curriculum will have been a success.)

Father God, thank you for your son Jesus. Thank you that he died and rose again so I could receive your love. Today, please forgive my sins and make me new in Christ Jesus. From this day on, teach me to be more like him and to show his love to the world. In Jesus name we pray, AMEN!

(Make sure to encourage celebration afterwards, even though the prayer was anonymous. If you are able to privately congratulate anyone who raised their hand, please make it a point to do so. And remember, do not hesitate to reach out to chaplain commissioner Josh Murray @ joshua.murray303@gmail.com or 303-999-6476 with any questions or concerns.)