

ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT:

LOVE

DEFINITION:

Love is patient, kind, and lasts forever

MEMORY VERSE:

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." **1 Corinthians 13:4-8a NIV**

FINISH LINE:

Knowing God loves us helps us love others

READ: 1 SAMUEL 20:1-4; 12-17; 35-42

WHAT DOES IT SAY? (OBSERVATION)

- 1) What was David worried about? *(He was afraid because Saul, Jonathan's dad, tried to kill him.)*
- 2) Look at verse 4. What was Jonathan willing to do for David? *(Anything David asked.)*
- 3) Look at verses 13-15. What did Jonathan know to be true about God? *(God's love is faithful. God has a plan and will make it happen. The Lord would be with David and make him king like He promised.)*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? (INTERPRETATION)

- 1) Let's look at how Jonathan loved David the way love is described in our memory verse. How did Jonathan show David patience and kindness? *(He listened to his friend and wanted to do anything to help him.)*
- 2) How did he show that he was not self-seeking or envious of David? *(He was willing to give up the throne for his friend because he knew God's plan was good.)*
- 3) How did God use Jonathan to protect David and give him hope? *(He helped David escape from Saul. Jonathan reminded him of God's plan and love for him and that God would always be with him.)*

WHY DOES IT MATTER? (APPLICATION)

1. Imagine your dad was king and you were supposed to be the next king. However, you found out God was going to make your best friend king instead. What would you think about God's plan and His love for you?
2. Have you ever had to sacrifice something, like Jonathan did, to love someone? Has anyone loved you that way?
3. Do you believe God loves you? Who in your life shows you God's love? How?
4. Who do you love? Why do you love them? How do you show them love?