

ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT:

LOVE

DEFINITION:

Love is...

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:

God's faithful love endures forever

READ: PSALM 136

WHAT DOES IT SAY? (OBSERVATION)

1. What do you think the writer of this psalm wanted us to remember? What phrase keeps getting repeated? (*God's faithful love endures forever.*)
2. How is God described in verses 1-9? (*Example: He is good, mighty, creator, loving, etc.*)
3. Look at verses 23-25. What three very important things do these verses tell us about God? (*God knows us. He protects us. He provides for us.*)
4. How did the psalmist respond to God's love for him? (*The psalmist gave thanks to God and worshipped Him.*)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? (INTERPRETATION)

1. Other than the planets, moons, and stars, what else did God make? (*People, animals, plants, and everything that exists!*)
2. What can you learn about God's love by looking at everything He created?
3. Reread verse 23. What does God know about you? (*Strengths, weaknesses, everything!*)
4. Even though He knows your weaknesses, does this change the way He loves you? Why do you think that?

WHY DOES IT MATTER? (APPLICATION)

1. When you think of all the ways God loves you, how can you respond like verse 26? What can you do to tell God "thank you" for how He loves you?
2. What must we do to get this amazing love from God? (*Absolutely nothing. God loves us because He made us. He sees you, knows you, protects you, and provides for you out of His great love.*)
3. Why do you think the psalmist reminded us over and over again about God's love? (*God is love so everything He does is because He loves you so much! No matter what is happening in your life, God still loves you. You can always rely on Him and trust in His love.*)