Small Group Activity

What To Do:

Say: Our words can build people up. When we encourage someone or tell them something true that God says about them, we are being like Jesus. Let's practice with a game!

1. Kids **stand** in a circle. **Give** mini teddy bear to a kid to begin game play.

2. Kid **tosses** the bear to a kid in the circle and **sits down**.

3. Kid who caught the bear **says** something nice about the sitting kid who threw it to them. *If they struggle, offer ideas from the Encouragement Examples.*

4. After saying something encouraging, the kid with the bear will **toss** it to someone who is still standing and will **sit down** too.

5. **Repeat** steps 3-4 until every child has been encouraged. Reset and play again if time allows!

What You'll Need:

- Mini teddy bear (1 per group, reused)

Encourgament Examples

- You are great at making people laugh.
- You are really creative.
- You are a great listener.
- You are a child of God.
- You are loved by God.
- You are great at sharing with others.
- God has a great plan for your life.
- You are a kind friend.
- You are great at putting others first.

Leader Tip: Stay standing throughout the game. This way the last kid to receive the bear will have someone to throw it to and encourage them.

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Your Turn • Week 3 • Your Turn to Build • Small Group Activity Card

Small Group Discussion



Review the Verse

Find Bibles in room. **Look up** verse together. **Discuss** what's the same/different if in-room Bible is a different translation.
John 15:12-13 NIV *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*



Review the Point

Jesus includes everyone. It's my turn to be an encourager.

Choose Questions to Keep Your Group Talking



- Has anyone ever encouraged you when you really needed it? What did they do or say?
- How does it feel when someone encourages you?
- What can make it hard to encourage someone?
- Who is someone you know that you could encourage? What would you say to encourage them?
- How does encouraging others help you follow Jesus and live like Him?



Pray Together

Ask kids what they'd like to talk with God about. Lead the prayer or help kids pray for each other.

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