

HOMELINK

February 27, 2022

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

- Matthew 11:19 (NLT)

ONE BIG THING: Jesus's followers are given grace from God to be loyal to Him.

REVIEW: Today we read James 4:4-6 and talked about what it means to be faithful (devoted, loyal, you care about and prioritize that person or thing, etc.) versus unfaithful (to break promises, to betray someone, to be unloyal, to abandon or leave someone or something because things get hard, etc.). In these verses James is addressing people who have been unfaithful to Jesus by abandoning him as their first love and instead fallen into worldly ways of living— James says this makes you an enemy of God. In our lesson we used two magnets repelling away from each other as a visual for this.

The problem is— we are broken and our tendency IS to be drawn towards worldly living and we HAVE been unfaithful to God. Our hearts desire to make life about ourselves and to seek our own good above others, and to not love God above all else. It's a major problem!

But James 4:5 says, "God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him". This is a promise to followers of Jesus— that when a person trusts Jesus as their Savior to remove their sin, God places his Spirit within them. And the Spirit strongly strongly desires that we would be faithful to God. So even though we are unfaithful to God on our own, God makes it possible for us to be faithful to Him by giving us himself! In our lesson we used two magnets being attracted to each other as a visual for this. Just like the magnet has a strong pull to bring the other magnet back— so God does with his followers. He uses the Spirit within them to draw them back to himself.

Finally, Verse 6 says "And he gives grace generously." This is the best news ever! We are unfaithful to God. But if we bring that to the Lord and accept that Jesus has saved us from our brokenness, he gives us his Spirit and brings us to himself. And he LOVES to welcome us back to him, just like our magnets love to snap together!

SONGS:

"I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart" by St. John's Children's Choir

"God Made Everything" by The Village Kids

PRAY TOGETHER AS A FAMILY:

"Dear God, thank you for being faithful even though we have been unfaithful. Help us to trust in you to save us from our sin and brokenness, and bring us back to yourself. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

