

HOMELINK

February 6, 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 identified by their actions.

REVIEW: Today we read James 2:14-18. We took turns acting like different animals and guessing what the animal was based on their actions. We talked about how we knew that the leader was a monkey, for example, because they were acting like a monkey and doing things that monkeys do. James' point is that likewise you can tell whether or not someone is a follower of Jesus because of their actions. (To help us remember this lesson, we made animal face masks).

The danger in this lesson is for our Citikids to hear that their actions save them– that is not the gospel and it's not what James is saying. So, we talked about how our actions don't earn God's love– they are a response to God's love. And what James is saying– is that when a person really understands God's forgiveness, they will respond to God's love by acting like Jesus and doing the things that Jesus did. Actions don't make someone a follower of Jesus– they are just evidence that they are followers of Jesus.

Debriefing question: Do you look like Jesus by doing the things Jesus did? We all fall short of this, so we want to encourage you to trust in Jesus for forgiveness of sins, for salvation, and for life forever with God. Once you have become a follower of Jesus, he will help you for the rest of your life to look more and more like him by your actions.

SONGS:

"Every Promise in the Book" by Cedarhurst Kids

"Jesus Came to Save Sinners" by the Village Church

PRAY TOGETHER AS A FAMILY:

"Heavenly Father, thank you that Jesus's life and actions are perfect, and that if we accept him as our Savior that he gives us credit for those perfect actions. Help us to trust in Jesus alone for salvation, and out of the overflow of that faith for us to look more and more like him by our actions. We need your help– both to save us and to make us more like you. In Jesus's name, Amen."

