

### What if... We Really Loved Each Other? (Philippians 2:1-4)

**Main Point:** When we trust God, we can treat people like they are more important than us.

**Key Verse:** *Be free of pride. Think of others as better than yourselves.* - Philippians 2:3b

**Materials:** 1 piece of yarn or string per person (close to 30 in. each); 1 sticker per person (1" x 2.5" white address label)

#### Personal Connection & Hands on Application

• Let's open our Bibles and read **Philippians 2:3**.

• Well, if we're going to be free of pride, there's one word we will have to stop using.

• Can anyone guess what word it is? It's a really, really short word. The word is "I".

*Hand a piece of string to each person. Everyone fold your string in half so the two ends are the same length. Then pass the sheet of address labels. Everyone take a sticker, and fold it in half over the ends. Then pass around a pen and have kids write the letter "I" on it.*



• Let's make a game of this. I'm guessing none of us realize how much we focus on ourselves.

**Rues:** Everyone put on their "I necklace". Now, as we talk, we aren't allowed to say "I" or "me". Anytime one of us says one of those words, whoever catches them saying it first gets that person's necklace. If they have collected more than one, the person gets all of them. By the end of our morning, we might learn who is the least self-focused of all of us.

• Engage in a few minutes of casual conversation: Ask what everyone's family did yesterday, if there's anything special coming up this week, etc.

**Discussion** (If kids are handling the game well, keep it going. If it's making them rowdy, you may end it.)

• How did Jonathan treat David? Why? (He trusted God.)

• What does it mean to think of others as more important than yourself?

• Who do you treat with the most kindness? The least kindness? Why the difference?

• How does it make you feel when you treat someone with honor? How does it make them feel?

#### Conversation with God (Prayer)

Fill in the prayer journal and close in prayer. Thank God for His amazing plans and the way He cares for each of us. Ask Him to remind us that we don't have to hold tightly to our stuff. We can trust that God will provide everything we should have.

(Leader, next week, we go into detail about Jesus' perfect example of putting others first!)