

Virtual Sunday School Lesson

Peacemakers (Matthew 5)



Bible Verses (NIV):

Matthew 5: 9, 21-26, 43-48

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.'

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Activity: Love Your Enemies

Theme: Love one another -- even your enemies.

Supplies: A large heart (cut out or stuffie)

Lesson:

What do you think of when you see a heart? (Hold up the heart.) Most of us would probably say that when we see a heart, we think of love. Who do you love? Do you love your parents? Do you love your brother or sister? How about your best friend? Do you love your teacher? It is easy to love these people, because they love us too.

Are there any boys or girls that are mean to you at recess? Has anyone ever said something about you that was not true? Do you love those boys and girls? Should we really be expected to love people who are mean to us, treat us badly, and say ugly things about us? Well, let's listen to what Jesus told us to do.

One day Jesus was teaching out on a hillside. We call his lesson that day "The Sermon on the Mount." In his sermon, Jesus said some things that really surprised his listeners. "You have heard that you should love your neighbors and hate your enemies," Jesus said. "But I say, love your enemies -- and if someone does mean and hateful things to you, pray them."

Why should we love our enemies? Jesus said that when we love our enemies, we are acting like children of God. If we only love those who love us, will God reward us for that? If we are only kind to our friends, what is so great about that? Everybody does that!

It isn't always easy to love your enemies, but there are some good reasons for doing it.

It demonstrates the love of God to others.

It sets a good example for others to follow.

It turns enemies into friends.

Closing Prayer

Father, it is easy to love those who love us. Help us to love our enemies so that they might know that we are your children. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

thanks to www.sermons4kids.com

Video: PursueGod Kids; Peacemaker <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlr8CCqLchA>

This video will help your kids learn about the importance of peace and how to be a peacemaker.

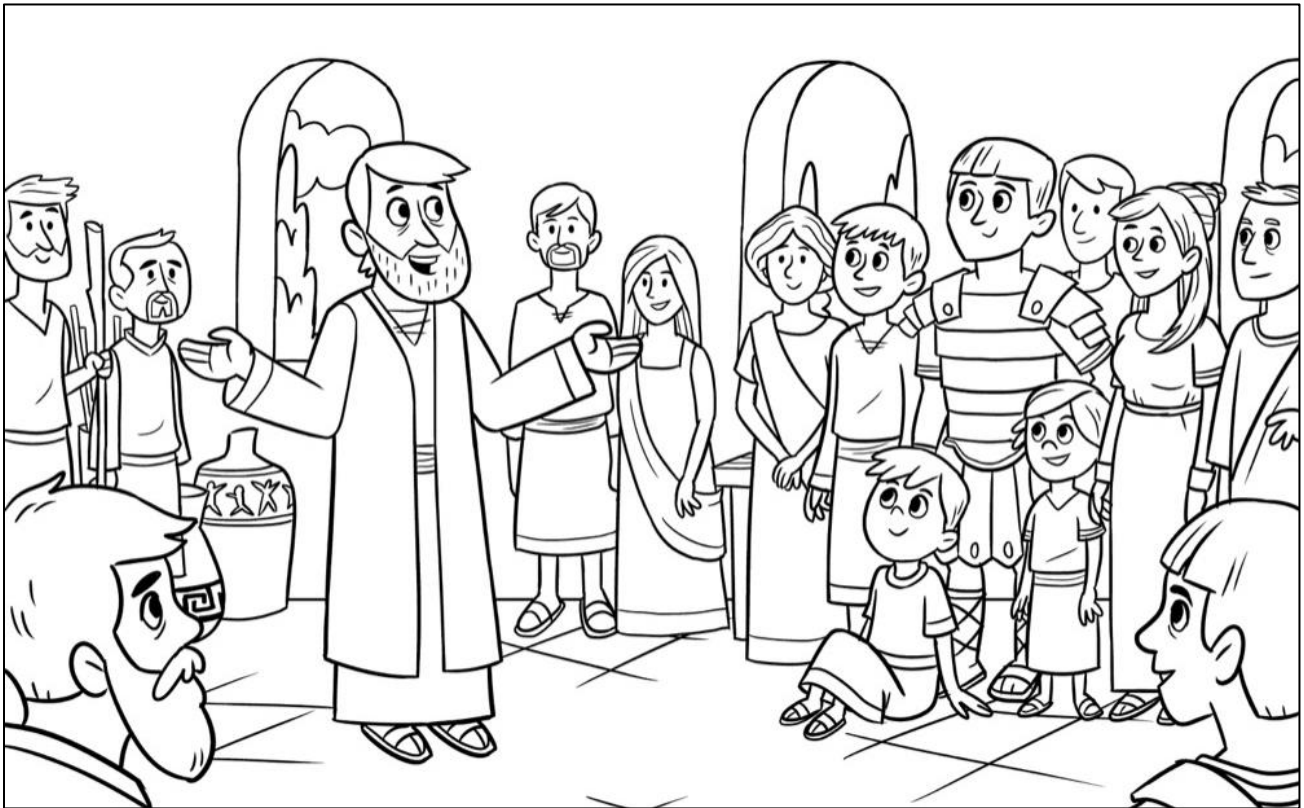
Duration: 2:24

Video: PursueGod Kids; Friendly Thing Called Forgiveness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwZnxOXauF8>

We should forgive others because Jesus forgives us.

Duration: 2:42



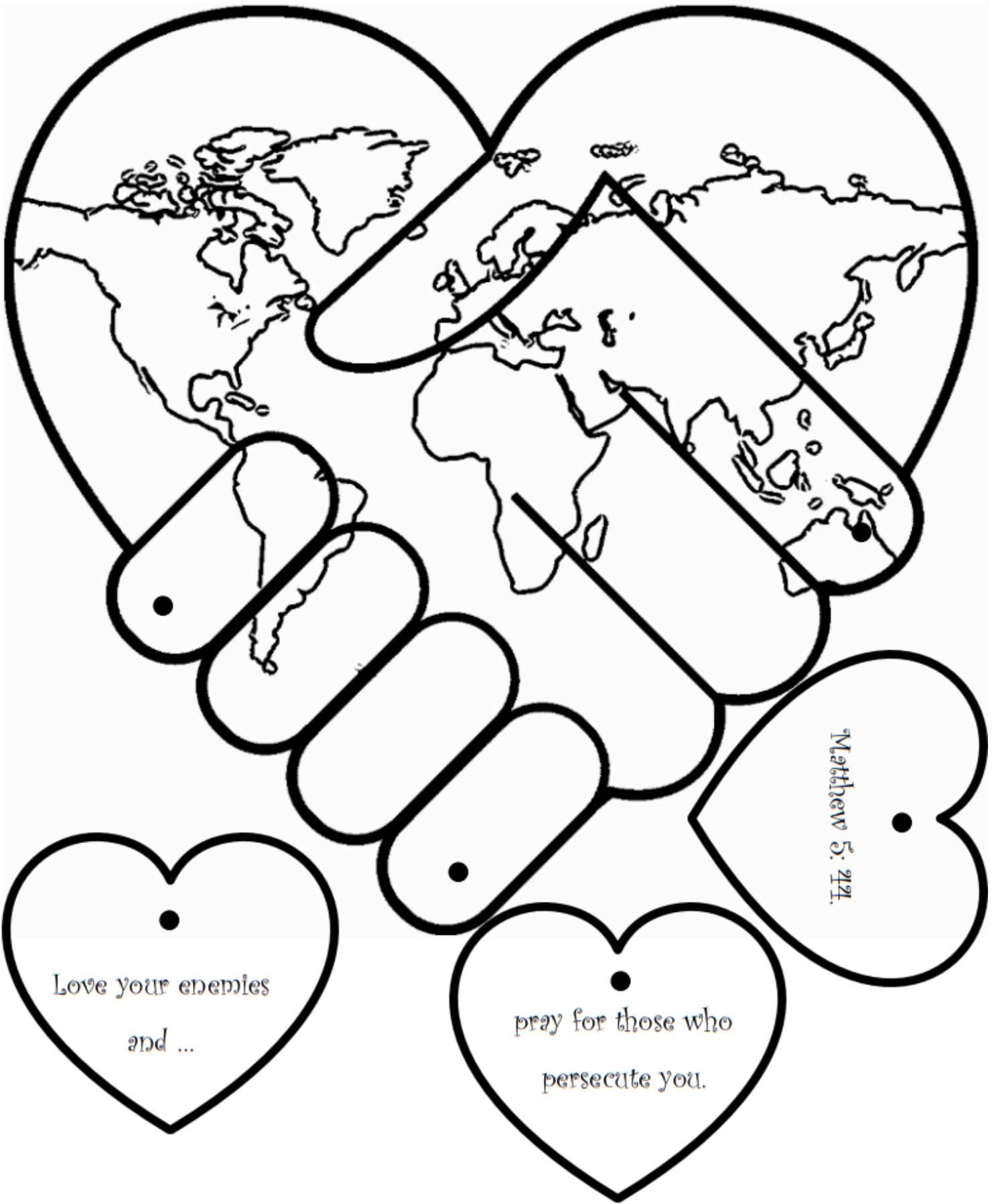
Jesus told people to love each other, even those that do bad things to you.

Craft: Peacemaker Mobile

Supplies: crayons/markers, scissors, hole punch, string

Directions: Have children color the heart/hands and hearts, then cut out. Use hole punch to make holes where indicated on large heart/hand and smaller hearts. Use varying lengths of string to tie the smaller hearts onto the larger.





Love your enemies
and ...

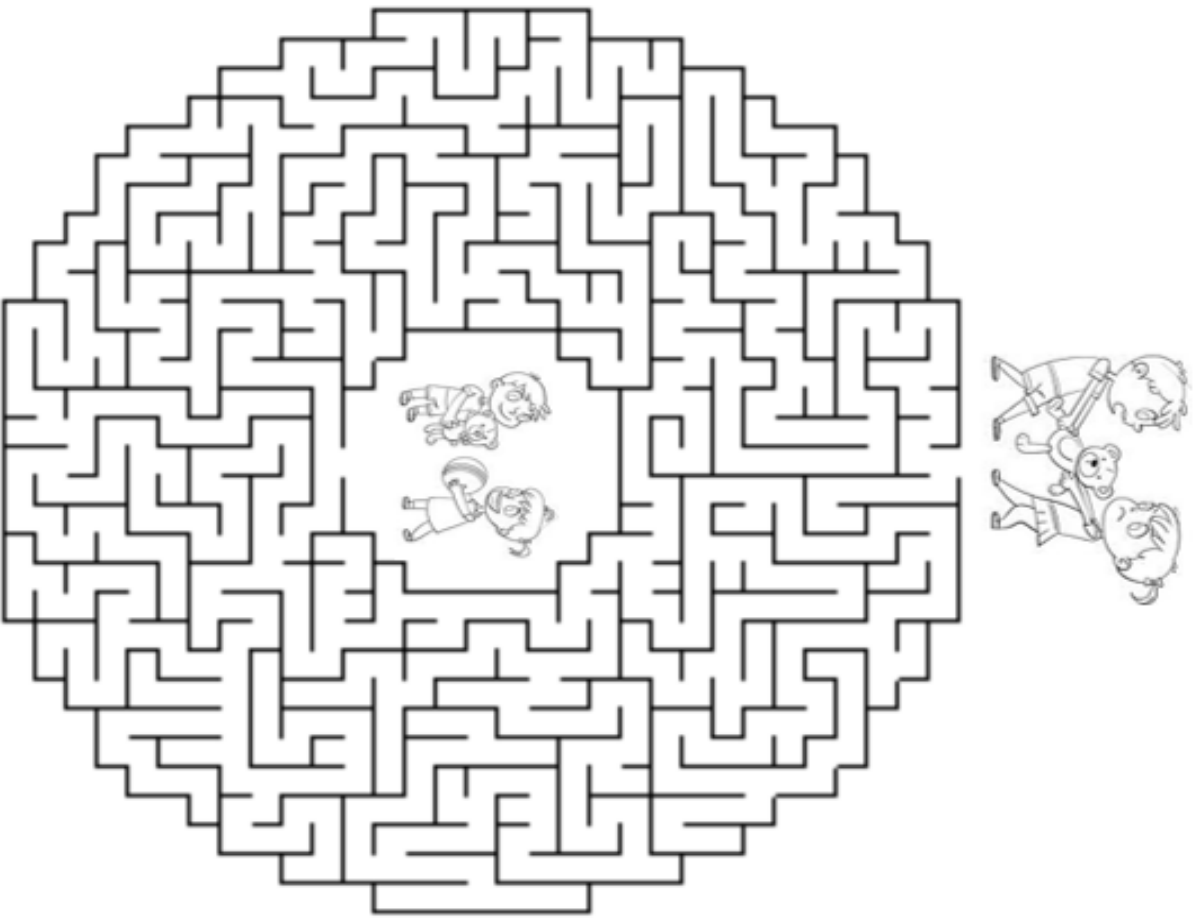
pray for those who
persecute you.

Matthew 5: 44.

I can be a
Peacemaker.



Help these children find a way to peace.



Jesus told people to love each other, even those that do bad things to you. Find 5 things in these two pictures that are different.

