

Love Your Enemies

1. Kids Intro – Love your anemones

Video: <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/wild/ultimate-animal-countdown/videos/sting-like-a-bee/?source=searchvideo>

2. Scattegories game:

- Each family/group to write down 5 things that you would do to a bad guy
- Be creative – if you have a unique idea (i.e. no one else has thought of it) then you get a point!

3. Text jumble game (Don't tell the group what the text is to start with):

- Using text: Matthew 5: 43-48 (Message version).
- Each verse has been cut up into words and phrases
- In 5 groups/families - each group has a bag of words & phrases
- Need to arrange the words into sentences that make up the verses
- Each team then reads their verses and we put them in order

Talk about the text

4. Wheel of fortune/Hangman- phrase guessing game (Don't tell the group what the text is to start with):

- Using text: 1 Corinthians 13:8 "Love never fails"
- Using a whiteboard or large sheet of paper, write out spaces for each letter/word in the verse,
- Each team has a turn to guess a letter in the phrase (e.g. If they guess the letter 'E' then you can fill in where all the E's are in the phrase)
- Each correct guess gets a point and a chance to "solve" the phrase

Talk about the text

5. Use the handout to help adults and kids individually reflect, draw, write about an experience/person that has made life difficult (take 10 minutes, play some quiet music)

- Talk about it within your family/group – how can we apply Jesus' teaching to this situation?
- Encourage each other to put the sign up somewhere at home where they see it every day (e.g. bathroom mirror, toilet door, take a photo and set as phone background) and pray for the person regularly

6. Communion – share some thoughts about:

- Jesus sharing communion with Judas even though he knew he would betray him
- Judas betraying Jesus with a kiss
- Jesus healing the soldiers ear when he was being arrested
- The ultimate example of loving enemies when He asked God to forgive them

7. Closing prayer: MLK Love your enemies [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhMNR9NtSD0>]