

The Best Kind of Friend

By Amber Espinosa

At this stop on your Bible trek, you'll see that Jesus is a friend who never leaves anyone out. And, you'll learn that Jesus is your friend too.

For

Just For Kids

Season

Fall

Needed

Markers or crayons, your Bible Trek book



Prepare in Advance

If you haven't already created your Bible Trek book, go to [Word Made Flesh](#), and find the directions for creating your own book.

Activity Plan

1. Read a story of Jesus eating dinner with unlikely people in Matthew 9:9-11:

"As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he rose and followed him. And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?'"

2. Discuss

- In Jesus' time, tax collectors were people who didn't just collect taxes that were owed to the government. They also got rich by taking others' money for themselves. People who were known as sinners were people who cheated others, or broke many of the religious laws. The religious leaders of the time saw these people as outcasts, people who shouldn't be included in God's love unless they changed their ways. But Jesus had dinner with them!
- What words would you use to describe Jesus in this story? What kind of person is he?
- Tell about some people who are left out by others at school.
- Tell about people in the world who get treated better or worse than others.

3. Read John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." Think of a way to remember Jesus' love for you.

- Who are your best friends? What are they like?
- What does this verse tell us about the best kind of friend?



- Jesus is the best kind of friend to us. Jesus came to be with us and to die with and for us because he loves us so much. Find a way to remember each day that Jesus loves you. You could...
 - Sing or listen to a song about Jesus every day. You might like these:
[Jesus Loves Me](#)
[What a Friend We Have in Jesus](#)
 - Make a cross craft and put it up somewhere in your house. There are lots of ideas if you do an internet search for "cross crafts for kids!"
 - Pick a favorite Bible verse and put it somewhere that you'll read it every day.
- 4. Make a page of your Bible Trek: Jesus' Life and Ministry book.
 - Write the words, "Jesus is the best kind of friend."
 - Add a picture to help you remember what kind of friend Jesus is.
- 5. Pray this prayer as you finish this stop on your Bible Trek.

Loving God, thank you for sending Jesus to be the best kind of friend to me. Help me to remember how much you love me. Amen

