

MAIN POINT:

A Real BFF—Best Friends Forever

There are three things that could get in the way and cause problems in our friendships. Popularity could cause us to act in a way that conforms to what others are doing instead of remembering how God wants us to act. He does not want us to seek to be honoured or seek to be popular, He says we should be humble. Gossip and unkind words knock people down. It is hurtful and wrong. The Bible says we should build up others and be kind. Although conflict is a very normal part of life, it matters how we go about resolving it. We should seek unity in our relationships, so we should forgive, be patient, and live in peace with one another.

FAMILY DISCUSSION:

- 1. Today we learned that we can sometimes fall into the problem of popularity in our friendships.**
Popularity is when we try to be someone we aren't – in the way we think, act, dress, talk etc.

How have you seen you or others try to be popular? *(Listen and contribute.)*
- 2. Today we learned about the problem of gossip in our friendships and how destructive it can be in our lives. Have you ever been tempted to gossip? If someone was gossiping to you, what is something you could say to them to help point them back to what God says about gossip?** *(Listen and contribute.)*
- 3. Share a time when someone used their words to encourage you. How did it make you feel?** *(Listen and contribute.)*
- 4. Today we heard about how to resolve conflict in our friendships following the Matthew 18 principle. Have you ever had a conflict with a friend? How did you resolve the conflict? Did you need anyone's help resolving the conflict?** (ie parent, teacher, coach, pastor).

5. **Let's read Matthew 18:15-17 together. Open your Bible if you have it. I will read it out loud. As I read, think about the words that stand out to you.**

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins against you, go to them. Tell them what they did wrong. Keep it between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them back. ¹⁶ But what if they won't listen to you? Then take one or two others with you. Scripture says, 'Every matter must be proved by the words of two or three witnesses.'"

What stands out to you? Why? Is there someone you need to go and talk to this week to seek forgiveness? (Listen and contribute.)

FAMILY PRAYER:

SAY: I am going to read John 15:9-11 over you today and then bless you.

"Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love. In the same way, I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that you will have the same joy that I have. I also want your joy to be complete."

(Students names), **Jesus sees you. He sees you at home, at school, when you are with your family and friends, when you are alone, when you are sad, and when you are happy. He sees you because He is God. He created you, He knows everything about you, and is with you. Jesus is your Messiah and is Lord over everything. May you know how loved you are by Him. May you courageously follow Him May the truths of His word be on your heart and may you continue to become more like Jesus each day.**

What are some things that you would like prayer for?