Friendship means using your words and actions to show others you care.

WEEK 3 K-5TH

DAY 1

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Grab some blocks or a few plastic cups and build the tallest tower you can. Okay, now take a guess as to how long your tower will last before someone knocks it over? An hour? Fifteen minutes? Thirty seconds? What if you were to stand next to it to protect it? Would it last longer if you were there to keep watch?

When it comes to friendships, encouragement is super important. Everyone has bad days, days when they don't feel like they can do anything right. As a friend, you have the opportunity to help someone feel better just by using words that encourage!

But encouragement isn't just about words. Sometimes, just being present, sticking with a friend and letting them know you're there can go a long way too. When someone is sad, just sitting with them, giving a high five or a smile can help too.

Take a look at your tower. Name one friend you would like to encourage this week with your words and actions so that you can build each other up. As you pray today, ask God to help you remember that friends encourage one another.

DAY 2

Read John 15:12

Jesus asks us to love one another just as He has loved us. How did Jesus show love? He served. Remember how He washed the disciple's feet? He helped. Remember how He fed that huge crowd with one boy's lunch? He put others first. Remember how He willingly faced the cross so that we could be forgiven. He encouraged others. Remember how He said that we would face trouble but not to worry because He is in control? (John 16:33)

Jesus is the best friend ever. How could you be a friend like Jesus this week? Give some specific examples by filling in the blanks below.

I can help my friends by _____

_____

I can put my friends first by_____

_____

I can encourage my friends by_____

_____

As you pray today, ask God to help you follow through and be good friend just as Jesus has been a good friend to you.

Friends encourage one another.

DAY 3

Read Galatians 6:2

When you read today's verse, are you confused? When Paul wrote these words, was he talking about carrying each other's stuff? Actually, "heavy loads" mean failures, temptations, or trials. When someone messes up, or is tempted to make an unwise choice, we should step in and help. Instead of standing off the side or even criticizing, we should encourage our friends and do what we can to make things easier. A good friend is there to encourage and say, "I'm here. How can I help?"

Use the key to fill in the blanks:

_____ _____ _____
3 1 18 18 24 15 14 5 1 14 15 20 8 5

___ ' ___ _____ _____.
18 19 8 5 1 22 24 12 15 1 4 19

____ _____ _____, _____
9 6 24 15 21 4 15 24 15 21

_____ _____ _____
23 9 12 12 6 21 12 6 9 12 12 20 8 5

_____ _____ _____.
12 1 23 15 6 3 8 18 9 19 20

_____ 6:2
7 1 12 1 20 9 1 14 19

Key

1 – A	5 – E	9 – I	13 – M	17 – Q	21 – U
2 – B	6 – F	10 – J	14 – N	18 – R	22 – V
3 – C	7 – G	11 – K	15 – O	19 – S	23 – W
4 – D	8 – H	12 – L	16 – P	20 – T	24 – Y

DAY 4

Read Romans 15:2

When was the last time someone did something that encouraged you? Maybe a friend gave you a pat on the back and said, "It's okay" when you missed the goal in your soccer game. Or your mom sent a note in your lunch saying she was praying for your big math test. Maybe your teacher put a smiley face on your paper with a note saying, "keep up the great work."

There are **LOTS** of ways we can encourage others. Today, to help you put this into practice, think about someone you know that could use some encouragement. Make a card or write a note to that friend to encourage them. Think of a fun way to deliver it to your friend this week. *NOTE: You might need to ask an adult for help with this depending on your plan.*

You don't have to stop with just one note! Pay attention to the friends around you that look like they need encouragement. Make it a habit to say something kind, write a note, or just be present to sit with a friend who is discouraged. Ask God to help you be the kind of friend that encourages others and builds them up.

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