

Praise & Worship: Superhero - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVnHYmc744s>
Good, Good Father - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eE_l-Klp2Uk

Lesson: Jesus Calls Me Friend

Scripture Reference: John 15:13-16

YouTube: Sesame Street: What Is A Friend? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPux6QAKBdc>
Friendship Soup - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7w7yXkJTu0&t=63s>

Memory Verse of Power: "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." John 15:13

Discussion Questions:

1. Friendship Soup is a non-edible soup that consists of a mixture of ingredients necessary to make a good friendship. If you were to make a pot of friendship soup, what are some of the ingredients you would put in it? Write the ingredients down on strips of paper. (Save strips for object lesson.)
2. Why are these ingredients important to a good friendship? Talk about ingredients individually.
3. Are you a good friend? Why or why not?
4. How can you become a better friend?

Scripture summary:

Last Sunday we celebrated Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A few days before He was to be crucified for your sins and mine, He spent time with some of His closest friends on earth, His disciples. (A disciple is someone who loves Jesus, follows His teachings, and helps other people follow His teachings.) Jesus talked a lot about love with them. He wanted them to recognize real love. He called them friends. He tells them, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Jesus calls us friends. He laid down His life for us by dying on the cross and arising on the third day so that we can become children of God. We cannot lay down our lives by dying on the cross for anyone. This is not what Jesus meant for us. Jesus wants us to treat others the way He would treat them. When we accept Him as Savior, we live for Him. We willingly choose to do things for others as if they were our friends.

Encouragement:

1. Jesus is our friend. He loves us and wants us to know that God loves us, too. God wants us to be a part of His family.
2. Jesus died on the cross, was buried, and arose from the grave so that we could be forgiven for our sins and become a part of God's family. (John 3:16)
3. As followers of Jesus, we have to make the decision to be obedient to His commands, even when we don't feel like it. Jesus gives us the courage and ability to do everything He asks us to do. He does not ask us to physically die for anyone. He asks us to die to always having our own way in everything. Anything He asks us to do will help us to become more like Him and live happy, healthy, fulfilling lives.

Memory Verse of Power (MVP): Review and memorize John 15:13 (See above.)

Object Lesson: Gather the strips of paper with friendship soup ingredients written on them. Stir them up in a bowl or shake them in a jar. Play a game of Friendship soup charades. Take turns taking a strip from the jar and act it out. Throughout the week when you need a reminder to be kind and friendly, take a strip out and do what's on the strip. During our stay-at-home mandate, our family members are our closest friends. Let us lay down our lives for each other.

Prayer: Thank you, Jesus for loving me and being my friend. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins so that I can be apart of the family of God. Thank you for teaching me to be like you.

Craft 1: Make a friendship bracelet, create a card, draw a picture to give to a friend. Send it to them in the mail, email it, or take a photo of it and text it to them.

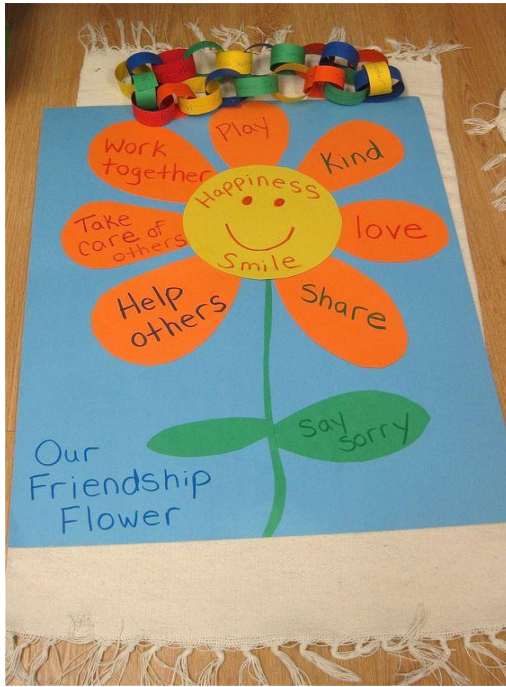
Craft 2:



Craft 2 Instructions:

Cut a cloud shape out of a piece of white or gray paper. Cut a few colorful strips of paper. Write different ways a person can show friendships. Glue, paste, onto the back of the cloud.

Craft3:



Craft 3: Instructions:

1. Cut one yellow circle the size of a tennis ball or hard baseball,
2. Cut out 7 orange oval shaped leaves.
3. Cut 2 or 3 green leaves and one long stem.
4. Write different ways a person can show friendship on the petals.
5. Arrange flower on a separate piece of paper. Glue flower down.

If construction paper is unavailable, draw petals, leaves, and stem. Color and cut out. Follow step. Step 5 above.

I am Thankful for Friends



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John 15:13

Jesus Calls Me Friend

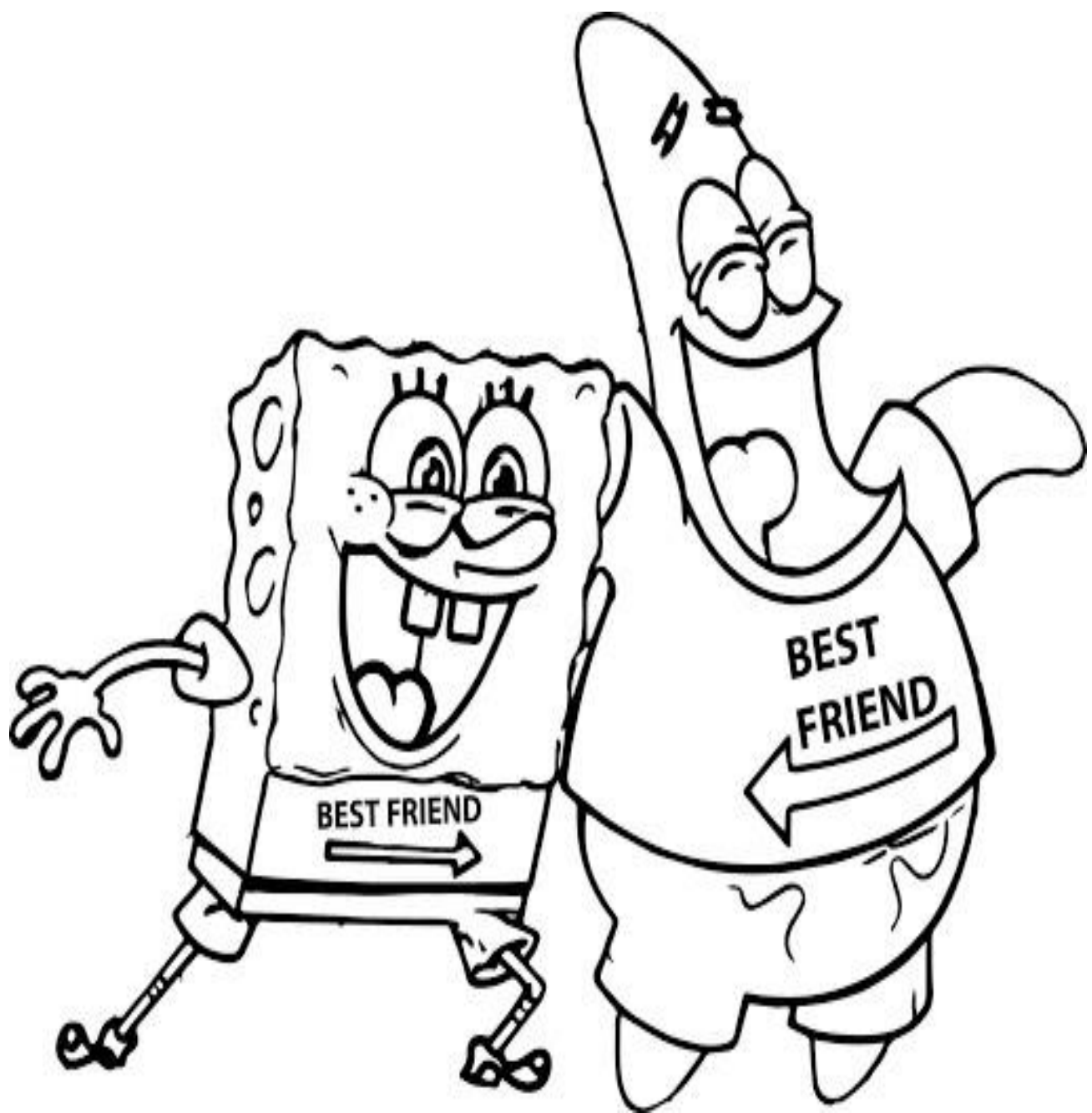


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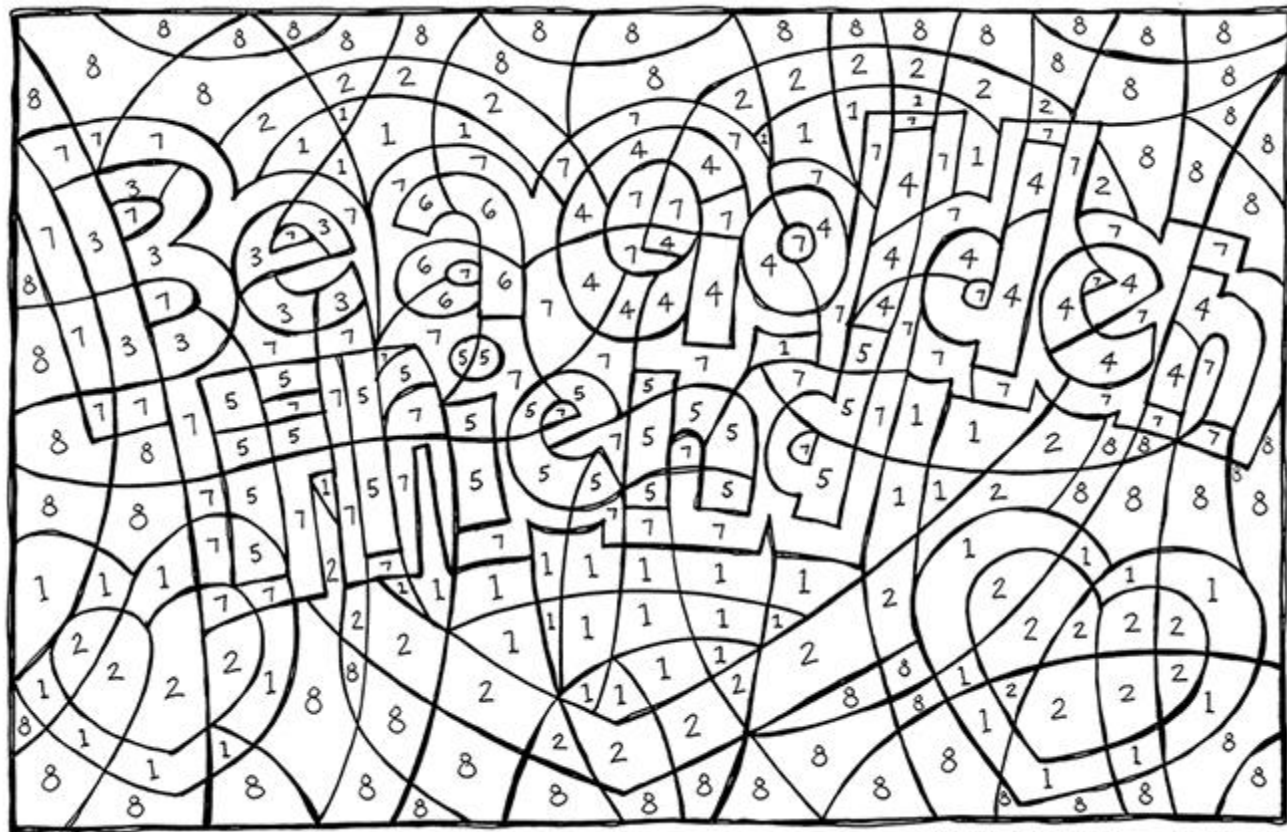
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