



Family Fun Activities

God Gives You Friends

Friendship is a gift that doesn't come in a box or with a bow. In *God Gives You Friends*, BOZ the Bear reminds young children that friendship is a gift from God!

Book Extension Activities

1. Thank You Card

Help your family to build awareness of special people in their lives through creating and delivering thank you cards. After allowing children to craft the outside of their cards, have them think about the special person they are making the card for. Help children record their answers to the question *You are special to me because* or *I am thankful for you because* on the inside of their cards.

2. Friendship Fruit Salad

Provide a diverse array of fruits to contribute to a special Friendship Fruit Salad snack. Work as a family to prepare the fruit salad allowing every child to add something to the bowl and to have a turn stirring. Before eating this special treat, say a prayer of thanks for each person who contributed to the snack and to highlight the wonderful results of sharing and working together.

Friendship Fruit Salad can be a one time only activity or can be integrated as a weekly ritual to celebrate the importance of cooperation and togetherness.

3. Links of Love

Invite children to share their ideas of actions or qualities that make them feel loved or special. Write key words down on strips of paper that can be linked together to make a paper chain. These "Links of Love" can be hung around the house as an excellent reminder of how we like to be treated and therefore should treat one another. When you observe children working out of kindness, thoughtfulness and friendship take the time to write down what you saw and to add it to the chain.

