

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY



This activity is part of the Native American Ministries Sunday pastor and leader kit and connects with the theme "Holy Presence: Declaring Divine Love." It can be adapted for your context and integrated into your Sunday school class.

PREPARATION

- One stick to break
- Five sticks to bundle with string
- Cutouts of the earth, stars, moon, trees, leaves, flowers, waves or other symbols that represent nature
- 3 or more colors of ribbon
- Crayons or markers
- Circles about the size of a large coffee can
- Stickers and other embellishments
- Hole punch or tape

OPENING

Open with a song or video that connects with the theme of faith, love and hope:

"Deep and Wide" by Ministers Hub

"God is so Good" by Allstar Kids Club

THE BIBLE STORY

If the children have not already received this as the children's message, share it with them now. If they already heard it, share the main points about Native American Ministries Sunday.

CIRCLES OF CONNECTION

Native Americans feel a strong connection with nature because everything is created by God. The Bible tells us that God made everything and called it good. Humans are given a great responsibility to care for the earth, including the water and the land. The Native American culture often includes circles as a way to show that everything in the world is connected. Today we are going to make circles of connection.

Invite the children to decorate the nature cutouts.

Ask the children to write the words "faith," "love" and "hope" on the bigger circle and to add embellishments that symbolize God's divine love. They should write their name on the back.

Attach ribbon to the nature cutouts so they can hang from the circle.

Help the children braid different colors of ribbon together and attach the braid to the top of the circle so that it can be hung up.

Gather the children in a circle and give each child the opportunity to stand in the middle and share their work.

CLOSING

Standing in a circle sing "Jesus Loves Me" with added verses.





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JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves us, this we know, His grace and joy, they overflow. With hearts and hands we go along. Embracing love, we sing this song.

> Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Christ's peace stays and never parts, Bringing joy and happy hearts. We receive and share God's grace Spreading love throughout this space.

> Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.