

The Way I Should Go for **Littles** Volume 2

Bite-Sized Stories for Training to Live & Love like Jesus

Ages 3 - 6



Love
for
Others

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” - Proverbs 22:6 KJV

Michelle Jansma

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Message to Parents

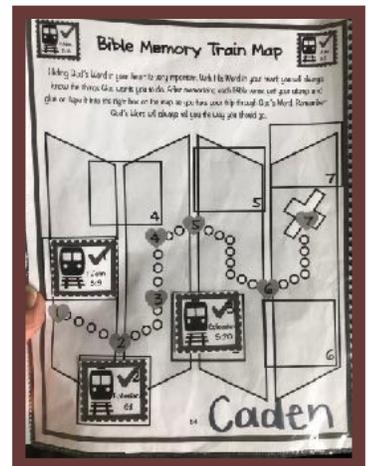
Your littles might seem too “little” sometimes, but when we’re talking about instructing our children in the ways of the Lord, well then, there’s no such things as “too little”. The problem is finding the right tools for our little ones. “The Way I Should Go for Littles” is meant to be just that, a **tool** for beginning to introduce your children to God’s will for their lives. It is not meant to be an exhaustive or even stand alone curriculum. Truly deep, meaningful, and impactful change in your child’s heart (and therefore behavior) will require **intentional** involvement on the part of the parent (and lots of prayer!). Use these materials as examples and starting points for further conversation and instruction. Refer to them during times of discipline and discipleship and expand on them while going through the material. To simply read the words on these pages straight to your child without expanding on them and adding your own guidance will not be very effective in bringing your child along the way he/she should go.

Suggestions for using the material:

Each of the 7 topics in this volume has a small Bible verse for your child to memorize. Even the youngest child can start learning to hide God's Word in their heart. Go through the material as needed, taking whatever number of days are needed to thoroughly discuss each topic and learn each Bible verse. As each topic has a varied amount of stories with it, some will take longer for that reason alone. Use your judgment about how fast to advance. You also know your child and can determine what level of "mastery" you're satisfied with before moving on to the next topic and verse.

Bible Memory Train:

To assist in helping your child visualize their progress through memorizing and hiding God's Word in their heart, each topic includes a Bible Memory Train - a train engine and cars with the verse printed on it in 3 sections. Hang a new train car up (on a wall, door, mirror, etc.) each time a new portion is memorized. After memorizing, your little one can cut out the "stamp" that they earned and tape/glue it onto their Bible Memory Train Map (p. 87). Cheer them on as they make their journey across the map and through God's Word!



Suggestion: use the included railroad track template (p. 95) to display the finished train on a wall in a bedroom or special area of the house. Your child can be proud of all the verses they've memorized and previous verses can be easily reviewed when they are all on display.

Sample Schedule for The Way I Should Go for Littles:

Suggestion: Print the “Bible Memory Train Map” (p. 87) for your child and place in a page protector sleeve. When beginning a new character trait section, cut the train car pieces and stamp and keep them behind the map in the page protector sleeve for easy access.

*Note: Work pace does not have to be daily; you can adjust to work at whatever pace you (and your child/children) need (ie, 2-3 days a week instead of every day. It is still recommended to practice the verse quickly during your daily routines on those “off” days).



Day 1: Read the introduction page of the new character trait as well as the first story; discuss the “What I Should Do” question for that story; color, cut, and hang the engine and first train car while practicing the first phrase of the verse.

Day 2: Review introduction page and read the next story; discuss the “What I Should Do” question for that story; color, cut, and hang the second train car while practicing with the second phrase of the verse added.

Day 3: Review the introduction page and read the third story; discuss the “What I Should Do” question for that story; color cut, and hang the third/last train car while practicing with the third/final phrase of the verse added.

Day 4+: Continue previous pattern until all stories for that section have been read; at this point, the train is complete; practice the entire verse.

Stamp Day! (after completing all stories and memorization): Pick a story to read again. If your child is ready, recite the verse entirely, and earn the stamp for the map! Tape/glue the stamp to the corresponding map marker. (If more practice days are needed, just read a few stories over).

Review Day: Use the railroad track included (p. 95) and glue to the bottom of a piece of construction paper; re-tape (or glue) train cars onto track; display all memorized verses together in a designated space so that your child can see all they have accomplished; **review all previous verses before moving on to the next section.**





The Way I Should Go



for

Littles

Volume 2

Bite-Sized Stories for Training to Live & Love like Jesus

Ages 3 - 6

Love for Others

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How I Can Live & Love Like Jesus:

Love Others

The Bible Says:

John 15:12 - Love each other as I have loved you.

Your parents want to teach you how to live and love like Jesus. Jesus loves us so much that He died on the cross to forgive our sins. There is no one who loves you as much as Jesus does. We need to learn to love others the way that Jesus loves us.

Love Others #1



John 15:12 - Love each other as I have loved you.

Love Others

Mandy was on the floor with her sister Chloe. They were building a zoo with all of their toy animals. Mandy looked at all the toys, trying to find the elephant, her most favorite animal. Suddenly she saw the elephant in her sister's

hands. "Chloe, I want the elephant!" Mandy exclaimed, grabbing the elephant out of her sister's hand, "It's my favorite, so I get to use it!" Chloe immediately started crying. Their mom came into the room, "What is going on?" she asked, kneeling down beside Chloe. "Mandy took the elephant from my hands!" Chloe cried. "Mandy, is that true?" Mom asked. Mandy nodded. "I want it because elephants are my favorite. I was looking for it," Mandy explained. "Mandy, we need to love others the way that Jesus loves us," Mom said. "Taking a toy from someone else does not show love to them. How would you feel if Chloe just took the toy away from you?" "I would feel sad," Mandy admitted. Mom nodded, "Next time, ask Chloe nicely if you can use the elephant when she's finished with it. You might have to wait to get your turn, but the important thing is showing love to others. When you wait patiently, your sister will know that you love her." Mandy nodded. "Ok, Mom. I'm sorry, Chloe." The sisters hugged.

To live like Jesus I will: love others the way that Jesus loves me.

Love Others #2



John 15:12 - Love each other as I have loved you.

Love Others

“Mandy, I want to have that,” Chloe said, pointing to the toy tea pot in her sister’s hand. “I need it.” Mandy looked at her sister, “I’m using it now. You can have it when I’m done,” she answered. “No!” Chloe cried, “I want it now! Give it to me.” “No,” Mandy said again. Chloe lifted her hand and hit her sister, “You’re mean!” Mandy let out a scream and immediately hit her sister back. Now they both were crying. “What is the problem?” their mom asked, coming into their play kitchen. “Chloe hit me,” Mandy sobbed. “Mandy hit me!” Chloe added. Mom nodded her head as she heard her girls explain what happened with their teapot. “Here’s the problem,” she said, looking at Mandy. “When someone hurts you, that’s already one person who isn’t doing what God wants. When you hurt them back, it does not make things better. It makes it worse because then there are two people doing things God doesn’t like.” Mom put her arms around her girls, “Remember always that we are supposed to try to love others the way Jesus loves us. Do you think Jesus would hurt others and say unkind words to them?” Mandy and Chloe shook their heads ‘no’. “That’s right. When someone hurts you, remember that Jesus wants you to love others the way He loves you.” Chloe handed the tea pot back to her sister, “I’m sorry I hit you. Can I have it when you’re done?” Mandy smiled, “Sure! And I’m sorry I hit you too.” The sisters hugged.

To live like Jesus I will: respond in love
when someone hurts me or is unkind

What I Should Do

Love Others

Note to Parents: The following are some further discussion points to deepen your child's understanding of the character traits, while also working on memorizing the Bible verse.

Story #1: Has anyone ever taken a toy away from you? How did it make you feel? Remember that taking something away from someone else does not show love to them. We need to remember to love the way Jesus loves us. Practice thinking of ways you can show love to others.

Story #2: When someone hits you, hurts you, or says unkind words to you, it's really easy to get angry and try to hurt them back. Has that ever happened to you? Talk with your parents about what things you can do instead when someone hurts you.

Story #3: If someone was doing something to you that you didn't like, how would it make you feel if they kept doing it? Irritating someone on purpose is not showing love to them. Love does not try to bother other people and cause them to become sad or frustrated.

Story #4: Have you ever asked someone to stop and they didn't? How did it make you feel? When someone is asking you to stop doing something, you are not showing love to them if you keep doing it. What if they are getting hurt and you don't know it? You'll make it worse if you don't stop when they ask you to. Remember how you'd feel if someone didn't stop for you. Love others like Jesus, and stop when you are asked to stop.

Story #5: Has anyone ever broken something that belongs to you? How did you feel when you found out? When you are rough and careless with something that belongs to someone else, you are not showing love to them. Remember that being careful with things that belong to someone else is a great way to show love to them.

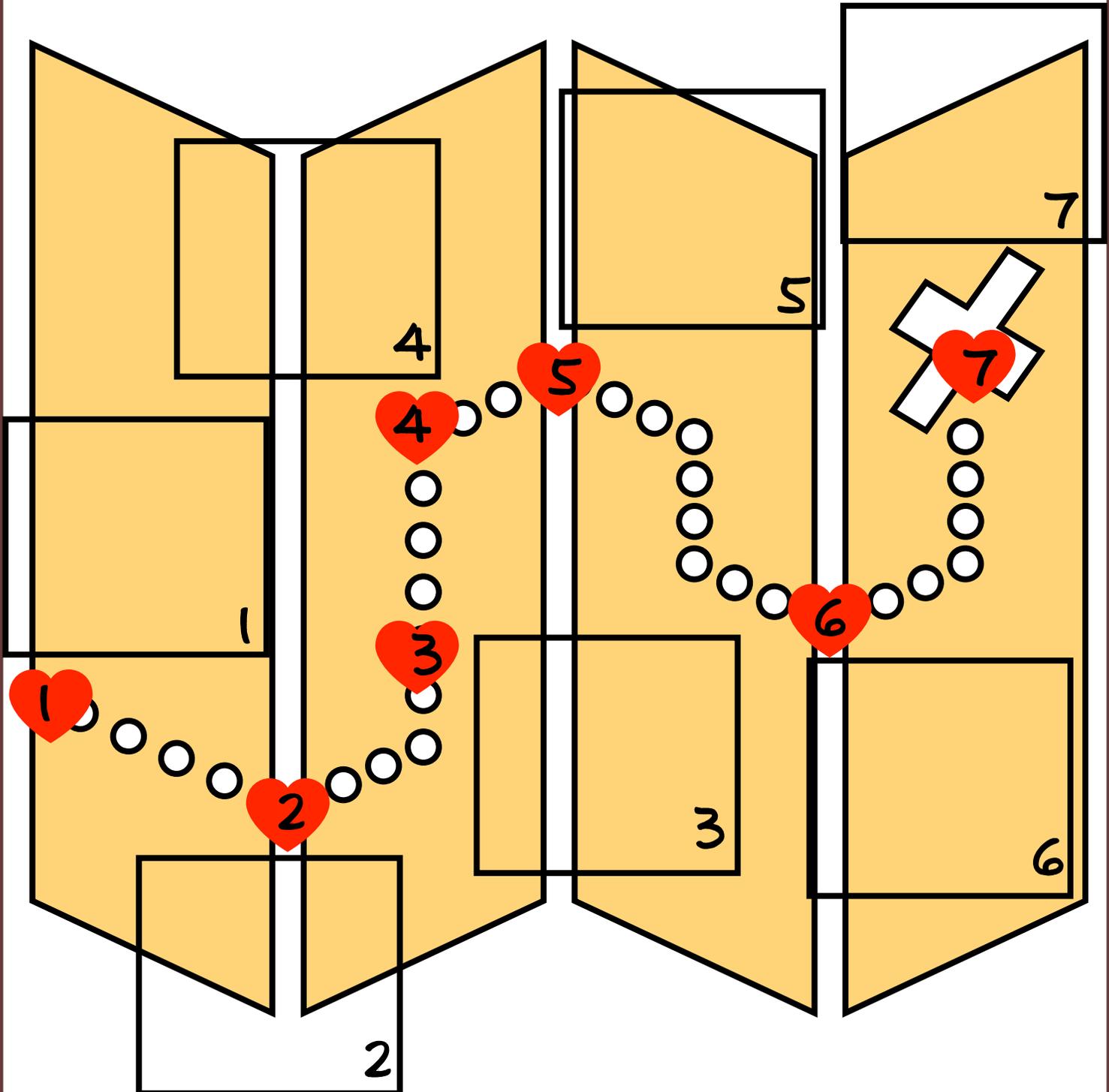
Prayer: Dear God, help me to love others the way You love me. Amen



Bible Memory Train Map

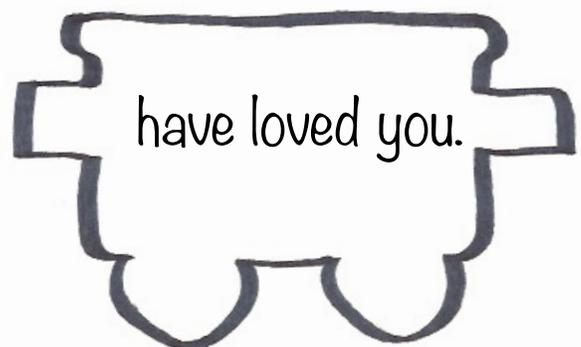
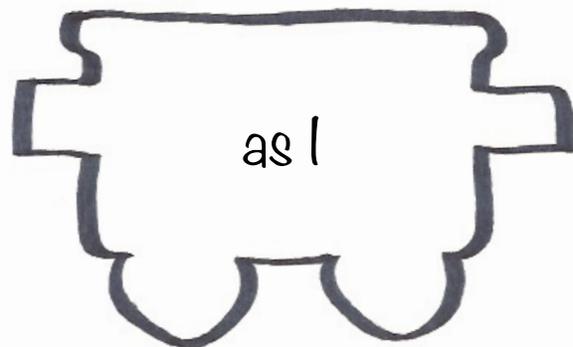
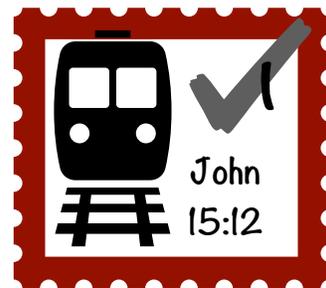
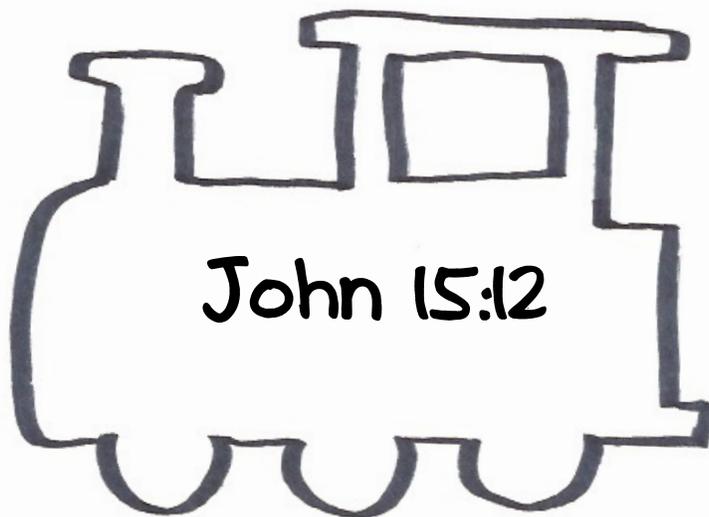


Hiding God's Word in your heart is very important. With His Word in your heart, you will always know the things God wants you to do. After memorizing each Bible verse, get your stamp and glue or tape it into the right box on the map as you take your trip through God's Word. Remember: God's Word will always tell you the way you should go.



Bible Memory Train – John 15:12

Print and cut out pieces of the train (cardstock recommended; laminate if desired). Hang the engine and first train car on the wall in bedroom or living area. Each day, discuss the character trait and work on memorizing the words on the train car. Once mastered, add the next train car until the verse is memorized. After memorizing, your child can tape their “stamp” to their Bible Memory Train Map at the end of the download.



Bible Memory Train Track

Print out the train track pieces and glue them to the bottom of a piece of construction paper (a 9x12 sliced in half the long way, only one half is needed). Attach the train cars of the memorized verse onto the track. Display all the verses your child has hidden in their heart together for them to see all they've accomplished!

