



# PENGUINS



## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to have warm hearts and serve others.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that they need to love others, even those who are different.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Luke 10:25-37, The Good Samaritan.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."  
- Matthew 4:19 (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

The Galapagos penguin lives on the equator where it's warm. God wants us to have warm, loving hearts and not be cold to others.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Please help us to remember the story of the good Samaritan and have love in our hearts for others who are in need.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## MEMORY VERSE

*"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."*  
- Matthew 4:19 (NIV)

*"Come. Follow me," Jesus said. "I will make you fishers of people."*  
- Matthew 4:19 (NirV)

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Choose four kids who think they know the verse. Line them up on stage. Have the kids recite the memory verse, with each kid saying one word, starting left to right. When you get to the kid on the right, go back to the kid on the far left. Keep going until they get through the whole verse.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Have the kids create a picture puzzle that spells out the memory verse. Write the memory verse on a piece of paper. Give the kids 3-5 minutes to decorate the page with something that reminds them of the memory verse. Then cut the page into puzzle pieces, mix the pieces up, and let the kids put the puzzle back together.



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## SKIT

### TURN IT UP

#### ITEM NEEDED:

A penguin costume

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M/1F

#### CHARACTERS:

Diane- A zookeeper

Morty- A penguin

*Diane and Morty enter stage right.*

DIANE: Hello, Mr. Penguin, I'm Diane. Welcome to the Metro Zoo.

MORTY: Hello, Diane, I'm Morty.

DIANE: Morty? That's a funny name for a penguin.

MORTY: What did you expect? Peter? Perry? Percy? Something with a P?

DIANE: I guess that sounds pretty silly, huh?

MORTY: Very silly.

DIANE: Well, Morty, we are very glad to have you. Our zoo members raised a lot of money to build you this state of the art penguin house.

MORTY: A whole house? For me?

DIANE: Well, we have some other penguins coming in a few months, but for now, it's all yours.

# SKIT

MORTY: Sweet! Party at my place! But not for you. Penguins only.

DIANE: Ready to see it?

MORTY: I sure am.

DIANE: It's right this way!

*Diane leads Morty to stage left.*

MORTY: Whoa! I'm not going in there!

DIANE: What's the matter?

MORTY: What's the matter? Can you feel that draft? It must be thirty degrees in there!

DIANE: Thirty-two, actually.

MORTY: Thirty two?? Are you kidding?

DIANE: It's a penguin house! Penguins like the cold.

MORTY: Not me, lady! I'm a Galapagos Penguin! Do you know what that means?

DIANE: You like cold?

MORTY: I like the beach! I like it warm and sunny, not cold and icy.

DIANE: Are you putting me on?

MORTY: You got a phone, right? Google it!

*Diane pulls out her phone and looks.*

DIANE: Oh my goodness... you do like it warm!

MORTY: Told you!

DIANE: I guess I have a lot to learn about penguins.

MORTY: It's okay, lady. I forgive you.

DIANE: You do?

# SKIT

MORTY: I got a warm heart. Of course I do.

DIANE: Aren't you sweet?

MORTY: What do you say we find me some place warm to hang out while my new home warms up?

DIANE: How about a nice hot bath?

MORTY: Now you're talking!



# PENGUINS



## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

An open leaf dining table

*Have the table set up without the leaf inserted.*

How many people do you think I can seat at this table comfortably?

*Let the kids answer.*

Suppose I invite that many people to dinner, and at the last minute, a few more friends show up. How will I provide a place for everyone to sit down?

Luckily, I have a table that can expand. If extra people come, we open the table up, and we make it bigger.

*Have another leader help you add the leaf to the table.*

Having a warm heart is like having an open leaf table. There's always room for more people. We don't limit ourselves to only loving friends and family. We make room in our hearts for anyone and everyone God sends our way.

Don't close your heart to the people who need love. Let God warm your heart, and let God's love spread to others through you!



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## LARGE GROUP GAME

### ICE WATER CHALLENGE

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Two buckets full of ice water

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two kids to play this game. The kids will compete to see who can keep one hand submerged in a bucket of ice water the longest. The first kid to quit loses.

To keep someone from hurting himself, cap the race time at one minute. If they both last a minute, give them both a prize.

#### VARIATION:

Instead of having competitors race side by side, you can choose 3 or 4 players and make it a beat the clock challenge, where they race against the clock and the best time set.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

Don't be cold to people who need God's love. Ask God to warm your heart.



# PENGUINS



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to have warm hearts and serve others.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that they need to love others, even those who are different.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Luke 10:25-37, The Good Samaritan.

### **INTRO**

I'd like to begin today with a little penguin trivia.

True or false: Polar bears eat penguins.

False. Polar bears live in the arctic. Penguins do not. Most of them live in the Southern Hemisphere, mostly in Antarctica. Polar bears do not eat penguins because they don't even live near one another.

True or false: All penguins love the cold.

False! Believe it or not, many penguin species do not live in Antarctica. Many of them don't even live in cold climates! There are some, like the Galapagos Penguin, who prefer to live where life is sunny and warm!

The Galapagos penguin is especially unique. This tiny penguin is the only species you can find in the Northern Hemisphere. The weather in the Galapagos Islands can get cool, going down to the 50s, but that's a far cry from the sub zero temperatures of Antarctica.

Just like some penguins like it warm, God wants us as Christians to have warm, welcoming hearts towards others. He wants us to be loving, to welcome people who need a friend, and to always have room in our hearts for other people.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

Today's story is about a man with a big heart. He's a man Jesus' followers would never have expected to have a big heart, but like the warm weather penguin, he surprised everyone.

## **READ LUKE 10:25-37**

### **MAIN POINT**

To understand this parable, you have to know what a Samaritan was. Samaria was Israel's neighbor. The Jews who lived in Israel and followed Jesus did not like Samaritans at all. They looked down on them and thought they were trash.

No one expected a Samaritan to be the hero of this story. Not only were they despised, they knew they were despised. A Jew would never expect a Samaritan to stop and help him. Yet that's exactly what happened in this story.

Of course this isn't a true story. It's a parable Jesus told to teach a lesson. He wanted his listeners to understand what it meant to have a warm heart. You don't just love your friends or family or neighbors; you love everyone, no matter who they are or how different they are!

### **DRIVE IT HOME**

It's important we know who the Samaritan was so that we can let this story change our hearts. When our family is hurting, it's easy to be there and show them love. When our friends hurt, we are eager to be there for them. But what about the kid in class no one talks to? What about the new kid who just moved on your block? What about the new kid here in church? Or the kid you meet on the playground who looks a little sad?

When we ignore people who need God's love, we're just like the priest and religious teacher who ignored the wounded man on the road. We're like everyone else who shakes his head in pity and hopes someone else will step in and help. But when we act like the Good Samaritan, we show God's love to others. We show that we are different, and as followers of Christ, we become his hands and feet.

It takes courage to be the Good Samaritan. Our friends may not understand. People may laugh and point when we reach out to people that no one else wants to deal with. But if we do not warm our hearts to people in need, who will?

Every day, God puts new people in our lives. We can ignore them. We can be polite but not too friendly. Or we can open ourselves up to love our neighbors. Ask God to give you a warm heart that is full of love so that you will be the one to love your neighbor as yourself.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Please help us to remember the story of the good Samaritan and have love in our hearts for others who are in need.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



# PENGUINS



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER

Which do you prefer, warm or cold weather?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Matthew 4:19

Have the kids create a picture puzzle that spells out the memory verse. Write the memory verse on a piece of paper. Give the kids 3-5 minutes to decorate the page with something that reminds them of the memory verse. Then cut the page into puzzle pieces, mix the pieces up, and let the kids put the puzzle back together.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Play a game of hot potato with a potato (or a toy penguin) and see who lasts the longest.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Luke 10:25-37

What is a parable?

What people in Jesus' parable ignored the wounded man?

Who stopped to help the man?

Why was it so strange that a Samaritan would stop to help someone?

Why does God want us to love others?

### SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for the amazing love you've given us. Please let us be your hands and feet, and warm our hearts to love and serve others.*

*In Jesus' name, Amen*



# PENGUINS



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER

Which do you prefer, warm or cold weather?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Matthew 4:19

Have the kids create a picture puzzle that spells out the memory verse. Write the memory verse on a piece of paper. Give the kids 3-5 minutes to decorate the page with something that reminds them of the memory verse. Then cut the page into puzzle pieces, mix the pieces up, and let the kids put the puzzle back together.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Play a game of hot potato with a potato (or a toy penguin) and see who lasts the longest.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Luke 10:25-37

Why was it so strange that a Samaritan would stop to help someone?

If Jesus were here in our community, what kind of person might he use as the Good Samaritan?

Why does God want us to love others?

How does loving others make us Jesus' hands and feet?

How can we become people with warm hearts?

### SIMPLE PRAYER

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for the amazing love you've given us. Please let us be your hands and feet, and warm our hearts to love and serve others. In Jesus' name, Amen*



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## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

**Fill in the blank.**

The Good Samaritan is a story known as a \_\_\_\_\_.  
PARABLE

Most Jews did not believe there could be such thing as a \_\_\_\_\_ Samaritan.  
GOOD

The Good \_\_\_\_\_ was the only person who helped the man in need.  
SAMARITAN

God wants us to have \_\_\_\_\_ hearts so we can love others.  
WARM

We become Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ when we serve others.  
HANDS, FEET

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: GALAPAGOS PENGUINS



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Today we talked about warm weather penguins like the Galapagos penguin. The Galapagos penguin lives on the equator where it's warm. God wants us to have warm, loving hearts and not be cold to others. Luke 10:25-37, The Good Samaritan.



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Use the weather to discuss having a warm heart. Ask what kind of penguins would like this weather, then ask them what kind of hearts God wants us to have.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What happened in the parable of the Good Samaritan?
- Why was it strange for the Jews to hear about a Good Samaritan?
- What is the message of the story of the Good Samaritan?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

*"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."*

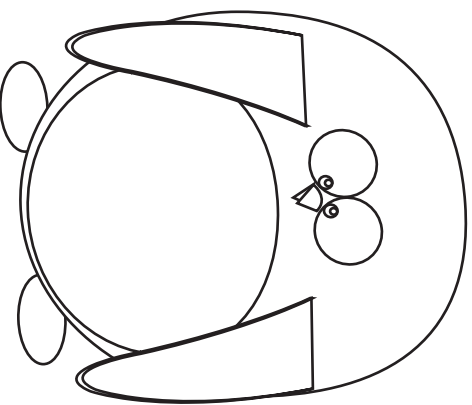
- Matthew 4:19 (NIV)



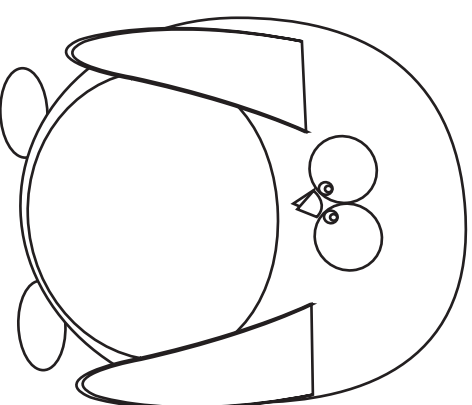
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

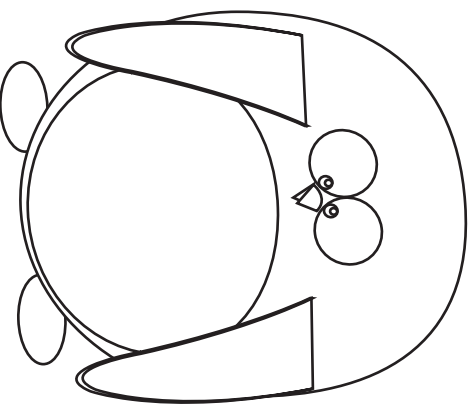
Ask God to give you a warm heart so you can model Christ's love for your kids.



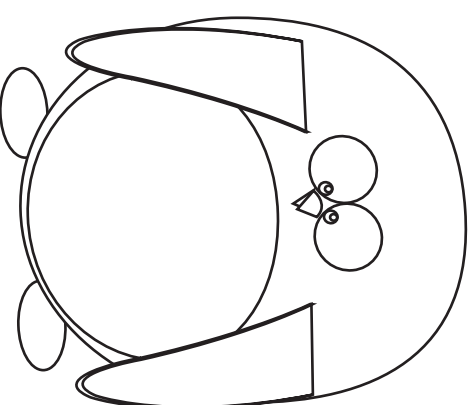
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- Matthew 4:19 (NIV)



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## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids create a 6-panel comic strip showing the story of the Good Samaritan.