



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Youth Core Leadership Team

#16 7/8/2020

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Opening Game I'm Going on a Trip Riddle: There is 1 speaker. The speaker starts by saying "I'm going on a trip and I will first be stopping in ____ and then going ____ etc" until you finally finish and ask the question, where am I going next?

To figure out the last location, you must piece together each of the location's first letters into a full work. Here is an example: "I am going on a trip, I am starting in Georgia and then going to Uganda, after that I will be traveling to Arizona and then I am flying to Madagascar, where am I going next?"

The answer is: "Next I will be heading to Guam"

Depart to Small Groups

Share your name, and a time that you loved your neighbor.

Watch Veggie Tales Love your Neighbor
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLxt6-1dzwQ>

Read

1 John 3:1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Exodus 19:3-6 Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,^[a] in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Romans 8:14-17 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba!^[a] Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness^[b] with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Galatians 3:26-28 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 22:34-40 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Ask? How do these scriptures relate to each other? What do they have in common?

Ask? What are some factors that make it hard to accept other people?

Ask? How can we overcome those things that we may believe make someone hard to love?

Ask? What does God call us to do in all circumstances? - Reference to Matthew 22

Ask? How can you incorporate one of these bible verses into your daily life?

Light a candle or candles as a symbol that Christ's light shines around you and hears your prayers. Take a moment to **pause** in silence. Feel God's presence with you. **Ask** What prayers do you have for God? Who or What is on your heart to pray for? **Pray together** Ask everyone to share one petition, specifically about loving a neighbor.

Return to the Large Group

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord,
Thank you for giving us the opportunity this evening to gather in your name to learn more about you, about ourselves, about each other, and about how to live out your call to us in our daily lives. Be with us as we live everyday in our

world full of injustices, disease, and hurt, but also give us opportunities to show love, to support those in need of hope, and to do the right thing. Give us opportunities to love our neighbors in new and unique ways, despite the challenges we may face in that process. We pray for those in need right now, that we would be able to help them as if they are our neighbors and to serve you, Lord, in all the ways we can. In your name we pray,
Amen

Bless one another by marking the sign on the cross on your hand and raising it towards your camera.

Let the Lord's light shine upon each of you, that we could perfectly love others, serve others, and bring peace to this world where God's light is so desperately needed.

