6 YO/1ST GRADE **CHRIST FIRST OTHERS SECOND** CENTENARY

Memory Verse for the 6 yo/1st grade Psalm 103:8,10-12

1989 NRSV

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us."

<u>Week 1: What is I AM 3RD?</u>

I AM 3RD is based on a simple belief that Jesus Christ is first, others are second, and I am third.

We strongly believe that Jesus Christ is the most important person in our lives. (Matthew 25:40)

Do our best in everything: We want to work at everything with all our hearts, as if we are working for the Lord. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Studying Scripture: We believe all Scripture is God-breathed (from God) and is useful for teaching, correcting, and training in goodness, so that through studying Scripture we may be equipped (ready) for every good work.

It is our prayer that we would gain a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Christ through our weekly devotions and times of prayer, in order to help us learn more about Jesus Christ and His importance in our lives. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

CHRIST FIRST OTHERS SECOND



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<u>Week 2:</u>

"The Lord is merciful and gracious..."

This soccer season we will memorize part of Psalm 103. This Psalm is important because it teaches us about God's character. The first two descriptions of God are merciful and gracious. This means that God is always willing to forgive us even when we fail. There is nothing that we can do that will make us unlovable in God's eyes. He is always ready to forgive us.

<u>Questions:</u>

How does it make you feel to know that God will always forgive you?

<u>Memory Verse:</u>

"The Lord is merciful and gracious..."



<u>Week 3:</u>

"...slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

God is slow to anger. That means when we make mistakes He is very patient with us. He is calm and always ready to welcome us back. His love is steadfast. That means that God never changes the way He feels about you. When we do something wrong we expect it to change the way people feel about us. But God's love for us never changes.

<u>Questions</u>:

Have you ever worried that God will change how He feels about you? How does it feel to know that God will always love you?

Memory Verse:

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love



Week 4:

"He does not deal with us according to our sins..."

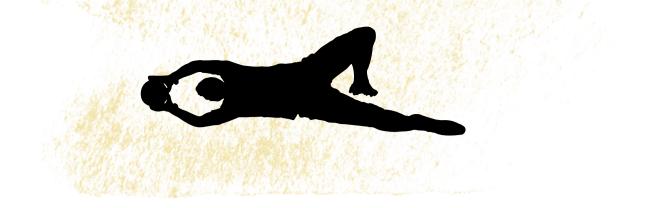
We sin when we do something that God says is not good for us. Because God gives us direction in the Bible about what is good for us and what is not, we know how to keep from sinning. Yet, we so often sin anyway because we need more than directions, we need God's heart. God knows this about us. That is why even though our sin hurts His heart. He knows we are more than our sins.

<u>Questions</u>:

What is an example of sin?

<u>Memory Verse:</u>

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins..."



<u>Week 5:</u>

"...nor repay us according to our iniquities."

When we sin we may expect that God is angry with us. After all, He tells us not to sin, shouldn't He be angry when we do? While God does punish sin, He is also full of Grace. While it might seem like the fair thing to punish us for our sin, God extends His love to us. We do not deserve God's love for us but He loves us anyway. Rather than fairly punishing us for our sins, God continues to love us.

<u>Questions:</u>

How does it make you feel to know that God loves you even if we don't deserve it?

<u>Memory Verse:</u>

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities."

<u>Week 6:</u>

For as the heavens are high above the earth...

How far is heaven from earth? Really far! So far it's hard to even put into words. The poet writing this verse uses that great distance to describe how much God loves us. We use phrases like this even today like, "I love you to the moon and back." God's love for us is so big that it is hard to put into words!

<u>Questions:</u>

What is another way to describe God's love for you? How would you describe God's love to a friend or family member?

Memory Verse:

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth..."



<u>Week 7:</u>

"...so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him..."

Last week we talked about how God's love for us is greater than any distance. This verse continues the same theme. God's love is consistent and is always offered to those who love Him. The word "fear" in this verse does not mean we are supposed to be afraid of God. Rather, we are supposed to understand how small we are compared to Him. Even though God is so much bigger than we are, He loves and values each and every person. That is a fact that should make us awestruck at how wonderful our God is.

<u>Questions</u>:

What does it look like to be in awe of God's love?

Memory Verse:

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him..."

<u>Week 8:</u>

"...as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us."

How far is the east from the west? Infinitely far! God loves us so much that He removes our sin from us. When He removes our sin, He takes it so far away from us that it is hard to put into words. God loves you so much and He sees you for more than your mistakes. When we know and love God He makes us even better by taking away our desire to sin.

<u>Questions</u>:

Why does loving God keep us from wanting to sin?

<u>Memory Verse:</u>

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us."

<u>Great work! You have memorized the whole passage for this</u> <u>soccer season!</u>





<u>Week 9:</u>

This soccer season we have memorized part of Psalm 103. This Psalm reminds us of how much God loves us. He loves us more than any distance can measure and nothing can separate us from His love. Even when we sin that does not change the way God feels about us. He loves us so much that He removes our sin from us and sees us for more than our mistakes.

<u>Questions:</u>

What did you learn about God from this memory verse?

Memory Verse:

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us."

Week 10: Take a few minutes to reflect on the season

<u>Questions</u>

What will you take away from the devotional time this season? What are some memories you made?





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