

Supplies

- Bible
- preschool-friendly, interlocking puzzles (1 for every 5 or 6 kids)

Easy Prep

• Remove a central piece from each puzzle, and hide it somewhere in the room.

Put Puzzles Together

Say: God's family is full of different people. Each of you is an important part of God's family. <u>We need each other</u>. Without every person, something's missing. Let's think about that some more while we work together on these puzzles.

- · Place kids in groups of five or six.
- Give each group a puzzle, and encourage kids to work together to assemble it. Praise them for working well with their friends
- · As kids discover that a piece of the puzzle is missing, help them imagine what the missing piece might look like.

Find the Missing Piece

Say: All our puzzles are missing something. Without the last piece, our puzzles won't be the fun pictures they could be. Without every person, God's family's missing something, too.

Share a time *you* missed having someone around. Maybe you missed your brother who moved away, a friend who couldn't make it to a birthday party, or a teammate who missed a big game.

Ask: • **Tell me about someone** *you* **miss when that person isn't there.** Kids may say a special friend at school, Grandma who lives far away, or Dad when he travels for work.

Say: God made his family to fit together, just like pieces of a puzzle. Listen to this. Read aloud Psalm 133.1.

Say: We need each other. When a puzzle piece is missing, the puzzle won't look like it's supposed to. When a part of God's family isn't there, we miss them, too. Let's go find our missing pieces. Encourage kids to look for their missing puzzle pieces. Celebrate when the puzzles are complete.

Say: I'm so glad we found all the pieces for the puzzles. Each piece is important. Let's pray and thank God that we're all important parts of his family. Lead kids to pray and thank God that everyone is important in his family.

Sing a Song

Say: Today we learned we need each other. We found out all of us have special gifts or talents God gives us that we can use to help everyone in our church. Let's sing the song we learned to remind us that every person is important in God's family. Lead kids in singing and doing the motions to the following song:

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, (touch head, shoulders, knees, toes)
Knees and toes, (touch knees, toes)
Each one has a job and (show one finger and nod head)
So it goes. (hands on hips, nod head)
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose, (touch beside eyes, ears, mouth, nose)
It's like God's family. (spread arms out wide)

Repeat, as time allows.

Pray

Say: I'm so glad all of you are part of God's family. Name different special things about kids. All of you have special gifts from God to help each other. That's why we need each other. Let's thank God that we have each other.

Lead kids in a brief prayer, thanking God for giving everyone special gifts and for how everyone is helped by each other.

Thank kids for coming, and invite them back next week.

Each one knows! (hands on hips, nod head)

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