How to Make Good Friends

Lesson 2: Being a Good Friend
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Unit Summary
The ability to choose good friends is an invaluable skill for children to possess. Few things will shape their futures more significantly. The friends that children select will dramatically influence their character, their choices, their interests, their conduct—and the direction of their lives!

In this unit, you will help children become thoughtful and intentional about their friendship choices—yielding dividends that will last throughout their lives. You will guide your children to understand that friendships are not merely gifts from God, but lasting treasures that they must intentionally seek.

Lesson Summary
Some friendships remain healthy for many years. Others fall apart, become counterproductive, or even volatile. When a friendship degenerates into a self-seeking exchange, it is headed for trouble. This is reality because some people focus on what they can get from others rather than on what they can give to others.

Godly friendships are based on selflessness and genuine concern for another person’s well-being. All of us long for good friends, but sometimes we become concerned about what we want in friends or what we can get from friends. We must first focus on how we can be good friends to others. Only then will we enjoy genuinely fulfilling friendships as God designed. This lesson will help kids see that friendship works backwards—when they start by being good friends, they end up having good friends.

Paul’s Power Principle: If you want to have good friends, first be a good friend.

In this lesson, your children will...

KNOW
- To have good friends, they must first be good friends to others

FEEL
- Eager to have good Christian friends who genuinely care about them

DO
- Choose three children they know well—then practice being a good friend to each of them
Choose from the following activities and ideas to engage kids and grab their attention.

Welcome!—Stickers
Create some stickers that say, “I’m the best friend a kid could ever have!” As the children arrive, welcome them enthusiastically and place the sticker on them. Say to each child, “Did you know YOU are the best friend a kid could ever have? It’s true! I have a sticker to prove it!” and then attach the sticker to the child.

Let’s Meet-n-Greet!
Greet someone you don’t know and learn his or her name. Tell this person who your best friend was when you were a little kid in preschool.

Leaders, be sure to stop whatever you are doing to move through the audience and greet the children, especially those you do not recognize. Announce any birthdays for the week. (See the How to Use DiscipleTown guide for quick and easy ways to acknowledge visitors and birthdays.)

Let’s Worship!
Reinforce the lesson by praising God for making each one of us unique while making all of us capable of loving others.

Recommended Song: The Greatest Commandment, public domain
Puppet Intro
Leader & puppet introduce today’s lesson. You will find a scripted version of this intro at the end of the lesson. **Supplies:** puppet

Puppet brings a list of suggestions for ways his friends could be better friends—including leader. The list includes things like, “Come over and clean my room,” and “Give me candy,” and “Do my homework for me.” When leader asks why the puppet put this list together, puppet says that he was just reflecting on all the ways his friends could improve on their friendship skills. Puppet says, “What the world needs is more better friends!” Leader agrees and suggests perhaps puppet could start by working on himself—what kind of friend he is. Puppet thinks that is the craziest idea he has ever heard! Why would he first work on himself? How unfair would that be—if he were a great friend before everyone else was? No! He needs to see improvement in his friends first, then he will start thinking about changing himself. Leader asks if that might be the problem, since everyone may be thinking that way. Puppet considers this, and says that maybe everyone should count to three and start to be a great friend on the count of three—at the same time. Have the audience count to three, and then say, “Okay, let’s all start to be better friends right NOW, so that the world can be a better place!”

Let’s Play!—The Friend Factor Game Show
**Supplies:** blindfolds, notecards, pens

Select two boy and two girl volunteers from the class to compete in a game-show style competition. The audience participates by rooting for their team and guessing who will win. Set up the stage with four chairs, two on each side, and a sign that says “The Friend Factor.” Ask each child two questions, one at a time, and have him or her write each answer on a notecard that they give to the emcee. Blindfold their partners and give them three options as to the answer (only one of which is correct). While the blindfolded partner guesses at the correct answer, have the non-blindfolded partner hold up a card with the number 1 or 2 or 3 (the number of the partner’s answer) as the emcee reads them. In this way, the entire class can see the correct answer. If the blindfolded partner answers incorrectly, the opposing team gets the opportunity to guess which of the other two answers is correct. Then the emcee reveals the correct answer. If the team that was up answers correctly, award 100 points. If not, and the opposing team answers correctly, award the opposing team 50 points. Repeat this process for the opposing team, and then switch roles/blindfolds.

Question suggestions:
1) My favorite movie is…
2) My favorite soda is…
3) I once got grounded for…
4) My favorite subject in school is…
5) If I were a professional athlete, the sport would be…
6) If I were famous, it would be for…
7) I hate when my mother calls me…
8) Most people don’t know that I…
(or make up your own!)

NOTE: You will want to plan ahead to make up other possible answers so that they sound plausible.
Connect with Your Kids

This object lesson primes the kids to think about value. Supplies: picture of yourself and a childhood friend

Do you have a picture of yourself as a child with one of your childhood friends? Kids need to see you as a child and realize that you faced the same struggles that they are going through. When I introduce a topic on friendship, I like to talk about my own best friend growing up—Andy. I talked about “Me and Andy” so much that my parents gave up on correcting my grammar—as long as it was Andy I was talking about. With other friends, my parents would still correct me, and I would have to say, “Peter and I.” Andy and I did everything together as children, and I’ve missed that friendship as life and geography grew us apart in time. I show pictures of the two of us and tell stories of some of our adventures—how much we enjoyed our friendship with each other, and what made him such a great friend. Just seeing a picture of you as a child with one of your childhood friends can soften the children to you. It can help them relate to you and believe that you truly can relate to them, too.

DiscipleTown Visitor

Find a script version of this segment at the end of this lesson.

Police Officer Pete: Officer Pete enters the room, comes up to the leader, and says, “Um, are you [Leader’s Name]?” Leader says, “Yes,” and the officer asks to see some identification. After leader shows an ID, the police officer says, “I’m going to have to write you a citation.” The leader acts shocked and asks, “But what for? I haven’t done anything wrong, and I didn’t even speed on the way to church!” The officer says, “That’s just it. We have started a new program at the station, called Operation Good Friend. We realize that we have only been writing tickets for bad behavior, so now we are writing citations for good behavior. Well, we’ve been inundated with calls from children and parents reporting on what a good friend you are. Frankly, our lines have been jammed. So I’m going to write you a citation for being a Good Friend. You keep this up, and we are going to have to put you on Good Friend Probation and maybe send you to Good Friend Safety School. It’s obvious that you know how to be a good friend. I hope you are going to teach these boys and girls how to be good friends. We need more good friends in this community. It is a huge need. If we had more good friends, crime would go down and the overall goodness of the community would go up. I hope to be writing some Good Friend Citations on these kids soon!” Pete looks at the kids and points his pen at them. Then he then rips the ticket from his pad, hands it to the leader, and exits. Leader acts a little baffled by the whole encounter. “Good Friend Citation? Well, um, okay, I guess I’m glad I got one. And I’m glad people reported me, I guess. And today we are going to talk about how to be good friends.”
Let’s Search!—Bible Dash

Supplies: Bibles

Ask all kids with Bibles to participate, or invite a few volunteers to come to the front. As children hold Bibles closed with hands on covers, state the Bible reference twice, then on the command “SEARCH!” have the students race to locate the verse. Once they have a finger on the verse, they can stand and call out, “FOUND IT!” Have the first child read the verse aloud while you project the verse on a screen via PowerPoint. See suggestions below for comments on each verse. Keep your comments brief and to the point of the lesson.

- **Proverbs 17:17**  
  A friend loves at all times.
- **Proverbs 22:11**  
  Those who love and speak kindly will have friends.
- **Matthew 7:12**  
  Treat others the way you want them to treat you.
- **Luke 6:31**  
  Golden Rule: Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- **Luke 10:25-28**  
  Second greatest commandment: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Paul’s Power Principle: If you want to have good friends, first be a good friend.

Let’s Learn!—Being a Good Friend  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

Supplies: “Mission Impossible” music, spy outfit, spy note as described below

Everyone wants good friends. The secret is to first learn to be a good friend! Did you ever see someone who is such great person that everyone wants to be his or her friend? That can be you. Not because you are popular or smart or athletic, but because you are the sort of friend who makes people feel better about themselves and who sticks by them no matter what. If you decide, with God’s help, to be the kind of friend God wants you to be, soon you will have amazing friends and will enjoy life so much more. Let’s call it “Operation Good Friend” and declare you all Agents of the F.B.I. (Friend Bureau Incorporated).

Suddenly, lights go out, strobe lights or siren lights flash, while the “Mission Impossible” or other “spy” theme music plays and a person dressed as a spy enters the room. Acting very sneaky, he works his way up to the front, delivers an envelope to the leader, and exits by a different route. Music stops, and room returns to normal. Leader, acting surprised, opens envelope and reads instructions from the F.B.I. (Friend Bureau Incorporated).

*It has come to our attention at the F.B.I. that your church has become an official training location for Operation Good Friend. We hereby authorize you, Senior Agent [leader’s last name] to deputize the children as Junior Agents to infiltrate the world as good friends. The world needs more good friends. Instruct them in the three phases of successful friendship—IDENTIFY, LOVEIFY, PERSEVERIFY. Now destroy this note.*

The leader can have some fun destroying the note in some fun manner. We will leave that up to you to determine, so we at DiscipleLand are not liable for your zany ideas!

Teach through the three points the F.B.I. suggested:
1) IDENTIFY—Phase One of Operation Good Friend is to consider the children in your life, in your neighborhood, church, and school, who could use a good friend. Who are the good kids who may often be overlooked? Pray and ask Jesus to help you identify people who need a good friend, and ask God to help you be a good friend to them.

2) LOVEIFY—Phase Two of Operation Good Friend is to practice learning how to love your friends as the Bible teaches. Open your Bibles to 1 Corinthians 13:4-6.

3) PERSEVERIFY—Phase Three of Operation Good Friend is to never give up on your friends. Stick by them no matter what. Read 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a.

Wow. Even when your friends mess up, let you down, disappoint you, or even make you mad, God’s Word says to protect them, trust them, hope for things to get better, and persevere. That means to always stick with them. Love never fails. You will never stop being their friend no matter what. They can betray you, but you will never betray them.

Friends like this are one-in-a-million. But isn’t that the type of friend you want to have? Don’t you want a one-in-a-million friend? Then be a one-in-a-million friend!

I want to make a two-part promise to you: the first part of the promise is that your friends are going to let you down. The second part is that you are going to let your friends down. However, if you put Operation Good Friend into action, you will start to build friendships that will survive those bumps. You will build friendships that will last years to come!

So, who wants to be deputized as a Junior Agent of the F.B.I. and start Operation Good Friend this week? Raise your hand, and I will hereby deputize you with this prayer!

Have the children raise a hand and then pray for them to identify some child this week to whom they can reach out and begin to build a stronger friendship with. Pray that God will help them demonstrate 1 Corinthians 13 love. That love is selfless and unconditional. And when there are bumps in their friendships, God will give them strength and patience to “perseverify” so their friendship will stand the test of time.

Note: The use of the unusual words “loveify” and “perseverify” will help the lesson stick. I’ve had teenagers come back to me years later and ask for prayer when they were having trouble with a friendship and say to me, “I’m trying the loveify and perseverify phases, Pastor Karl, but it’s tough. Please pray for me.” What an encouragement to see the impact of a lesson they heard so many years before called to memory and still being applied! Unique approaches create “hooks” for truth to hang on for years to come!

Suggested Bible Narrative

Jewish people thought that a neighbor, or a friend, was someone who lived and acted the way they lived. Jesus’ story illustrated that the true neighbor, or true friend, was the person who chose to help anyone who was in need. If we want to have friends, we need to be like the Good Samaritan. We need to be the one who helps those in need and never the one who walks right on by. If we demonstrate love like this, we will never lack for friends.
Dee’s Disciple Tip: One way to be a good friend is to show an interest in other people and get to know them. When you meet a new person, it helps to have something in your mind to guide you in asking questions to know them better. If you want to “swim with a new friend,” remember the word “F.I.S.H.” and ask about their:

- **F**—Family (parents, siblings, pets, etc.)
- **I**—Interests (books, movies, video games, etc.)
- **S**—School (subjects, sports, clubs, etc.)
- **H**—Hobbies (collections, musical instruments, themes, etc.)

KeyVerse

**Topic:** The Secret to Friendship  
**Reference:** Philippians 2:3-4

The KeyVerse for this unit does not directly mention friendship, but it is a wonderful verse that reveals a secret about forming strong friendships. Encourage the children to memorize this verse in the coming weeks, and consider giving a small prize during the final week of this series to every child who can recite this verse perfectly. Read the entire verse together a few times, but this week work on memorizing just the first half.

This week’s key phrase is: HUMILITY. Ask the children what they think humility is. Explain that humility is having an accurate opinion of yourself. A humble person is not always trying to direct attention on self. Instead, he or she gives attention to others. If you want to be a good friend, instead of talking about yourself, ask other people questions about their day and their interests.

Say the entire verse several times, but still focus on the first half. Next week, you will focus on the entire verse. However, be sure to include the Bible reference.

Print each words on an individual sheet of paper and invite kids on stage to hold them. As the audience reads the verse, select kids at random to return to their seats (and remove their word from the verse) until there are no more kids on stage. Soon the children will be able to say the entire verse without any visual aid.
Dramatize the Point

Act this out or read as a story. Supplies: two male friends (one of whom should be fairly short), and several other taller actors, one of whom should be a really big bully (or man)

The two friends are walking along when a group of “popular” kids comes up and offers to befriend one of the two kids. One of the friends senses that these popular kids are not of good character. He says to the other, “We should go,” but the other friend says, “You go; I want more friends.” The popular group says, “Yeah, if we aren’t good enough for you, then go!” The friend reluctantly and with sadness leaves, but watches from a distance. The popular group now pretends as if the new boy is “one of them.” Shortly, someone asks the new boy to lend him a dollar, which he does. Then a really big guy comes up and demands the dollar. They hand it over, and when the boy protests, the bully grabs him by the shirt, threatens him and says, “And what are you going to do about it?” At that, all the others flee and leave him alone—seemingly to be beat up! Just then, the original friend returns and stands up to the bully. He threatens the bully and says, “You’d better put down my friend, or you are going to regret it.” The bully laughs and says, “And what are you going to do?” The boy boldly says, “I have no idea, but that is my friend, so I’ll think of something.” The bully releases the boy and says, “You know, I gotta respect that. I wish I had a friend like that.” And he gives the dollar back. The other friend says, “If you want a friend like that, all you have to do is ask.” The bully says, “Really? Then I’m asking!” They all walk off together as new friends. The first boy says, “Maybe we should go find those guys who took my dollar in the first place!” And they all laugh!

Object Talks—The Dull and the Sharp Knife

Supplies: video projection

The video clip for this lesson features Karl, the Kidologist, doing a short object lesson on Proverbs 27:17. Just as knives can sharpen each other, so friends sharpen each other. Use this short teaching video to show the kids or to train a leader to do the talk “live.” Featured verse: Proverbs 27:17

Let’s Talk!—Small Group Discussion

Go around the circle and invite everyone to say three things about themselves, one of which is false. The rest of the group must try to guess which is untrue. If you guess the lie, then you get a point. If the person fools everyone, he or she gets two points. Have some fun learning new things about each other.

Small Group Questions:
1) What do you think makes a good friend?
2) When do you no longer want to be friends with someone?
3) Have you ever lost a friend and regretted what you did?
4) Is there someone you wish you could befriend again?
5) Everyone share the name of a friend you need prayer for.
DiscipleTown Super Citizen
Choose a child to reward for an act of friendliness.

Let's Pray!
Dear Jesus, thank You so much for helping us to understand what it means to be a good friend. We want to have good friends, but You are helping us understand that we need to focus on being a good friend first. Help us to so focus on You and be so filled with Your Spirit that spiritual fruit just naturally grows in our lives. Make us the kind of friend that people will want to have—friends who are loving, joyful, full of peace, patient, kind and good, faithful and gentle, and controlled by Your Holy Spirit. We know that if we want to have good friends, we need to focus on being a good friend. With Your help, by becoming more like You, we can do that! That is our prayer Lord Jesus, and we pray in your Name, amen.

Cy's Challenge: Think of three things you could do this week to be a better friend—and do them!

Let's Review!
If you have extra time, use these review questions to keep the kids focused on the lesson until time to dismiss. A handful of candy will help you keep their attention. After each question, take a minute to reiterate the lesson point related to the question.

1) If you want to have good friends, you must _____ a good friend.
2) What is the Golden Rule?
3) What was Phase One of Operation Good Friend?
4) What was Phase Two?
5) Name three things the Bible says about the way Christians love others.
6) What is Phase Three of Operation Good Friend?
7) How do you get “one-in-a-million” friends?
8) Use the word FISH to remember questions to ask about people you want to get to know better. What do the letters of the word FISH remind you to ask about?
Our children’s church series, How to Make Good Friends, has pointed out that the friends that children choose will significantly influence their character, their choices, and therefore the direction of their lives! The more we equip kids to be intentional in this area, the better.

Every child longs to have good friends. However, godly friendships are based on selflessness and genuine concern for the other person’s well-being. Children must first focus on how they can be good friends to others. Only then will they establish genuinely fulfilling friendships as God designed. This Sunday’s lesson helped kids see that friendship works backwards—when we start by being good friends, we end up having good friends. Your child was challenged with some specific ways he or she can be a better friend to other children.

If you want to talk with your child about the lesson, here are some review questions:

[insert review questions that apply to the segments you used.]

For a great family discussion on the topic of friendship, don’t forget to take a few minutes after meals this week to use the DiscipleTown Table Talker. No preparation is necessary. Just follow the easy instructions on the guide your child brought home.

Partnering with you to form young disciples,

[Your Name]
**Chip’s Snack Time!**

**Supplies:** peanut butter or whipped cream, bananas, candy sprinkles

Slice bananas into ½-inch chips. Spread each with peanut butter (or whipped cream if your church has a “no peanut butter” policy), and just a touch of candied or chocolate sprinkles. (Let the children add the sprinkles.)

**Note:** Bananas can be a choking hazard for younger children.

**Group Activity**

Everyone has heard of an “Insult Fight”—consider having a Compliment Fight! It can either be a skit between two leaders, or you could encourage the children to pair up or group into threes and for two minutes take turns complimenting each other. Encourage them to do it in the spirit of an “Insult Fight.” You may want to model one first. Two leaders can demonstrate:

“You are good at teaching.”

“Oh, yeah! Well, you are good at singing.”

“Oh, yeah! Well, uh, you are a great artist.”

“Oh, yeah! Well, I heard you were on the honor roll as a kid!”

“Oh, yeah!? Well, I love your momma!”

**Dee-Cy-Paul Application Script**

At the end of this lesson, you will find a special puppet script relating to worship and featuring Dee, Cy, and Paul. Dee, Cy, and Paul puppets are available at DiscipleLand.com
DIRECTOR’S NOTES
The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.

You will need a list on a piece of paper for puppet to hold.

Puppet*: Well, I’ve made my list!
Leader: What list?

Puppet: Well, I know now that Jesus is the best friend of all, but my other friends still need improvement.
Leader: They do, huh?

Puppet: Yep. So I made a list of suggestions for ways all my friends could become better friends.
Leader: Well, that’s...[Glances at list.] Wait a minute, is that my name?

Puppet: Like, I said—all my friends.
Leader: So what’s on this list?

Puppet: Oh, the usual. “Be nicer to me.”
Leader: Uh huh.

Puppet: “Come over and clean my room.” “Give me candy.” “Do my homework for me.”
Leader: I’m not sure those items necessarily make for a better friend.

Puppet: They would to me!
Leader: So why did you put this list together, exactly?

Puppet: Well, everyone can improve on their friendship skills.
Leader: I agree.

Puppet: What the world needs is more better friends.
Leader: You’re right.

Puppet: Of course I am!
Leader: So, why not start with yourself?

Puppet: [Does a double take. Pause.] What?
Leader: Try working on yourself to be a better friend.

Puppet: That’s the craziest idea I’ve ever heard! Why would I work on myself first? What good would it do to be a great friend before everyone else was? Nope—I need to see improvement in my friends first, then I’ll start thinking about changing myself.
Leader: You know, that might be the problem.

Puppet: What do you mean?
Leader: Well, what if everyone is thinking like you are? Waiting for someone else to change first?

Puppet: Hmm. I hadn’t thought of that.
Leader: So, what do you think?

Puppet: I think we should start at the same time. [To audience.] Hey kids, on the count of three, let’s all start being a great friend to others.
Leader: That’s a great idea, [puppet name].

Puppet: One...two...THREE! Okay, let’s all start to be better friends right now, so that the world can be a better place!

*PUPPET: Develop a puppet character to use regularly. The children will get to know the personality and enjoy these regular visits. Dee, Cy, and Paul puppets are available at DiscipleLand.com
DIRECTOR’S NOTES
The words in italics are notes for you and your volunteers; they are not to be read aloud.

You will need a police costume and a ticket pad. As leader finishes story from Connect with Your Kids, Police Officer Pete comes up.

Police Officer Pete*: Excuse me, are you [leader name]?
Leader: Yes, officer. Um, is there a problem?
Pete: Can I see some identification, please?
Leader: [Digs for his wallet.] I know it’s here somewhere... Ah, here you go.
Pete: ID confirmed. [Gets out his pad and begins writing information off the ID card.]
Leader: What are you doing, officer?
Pete: I’m writing you a citation, sir.
Leader: What?!? [Pete gives leader a hard look. Leader shrinks.] What I meant was, whatever for, officer? I don’t believe I’ve done anything wrong. I didn’t even speed on the way to church.
Pete: Right. No one ever speeds on the way to church.
Leader: Well, I didn’t. In fact, I try to be as good as I can.
Pete: Well, that’s just it. We realized that we have only been writing tickets for bad behavior, so now we are writing citations for good behavior. We have started a new program at the station, called Operation Good Friend.
Leader: Operation Good Friend?
Pete: Yes, and since we have started it, we’ve been inundated with calls from children and parents reporting on what a good friend you are. Frankly, our lines have been jammed. So I’m going to write you a citation for being a Good Friend.

Leader: Wow. I had no idea.
Pete: You keep this up, and we are going to have to put you on Good Friend Probation and maybe send you to Good Friend Safety School. It’s obvious that you know how to be a good friend. I hope you are going to teach these boys and girls how to be good friends. We need more good friends in this community. It is a huge need. If we had more good friends, crime would go down and the overall goodness of the community would go up. [Points his pen at audience.] I hope to be writing some Good Friend Citations on these kids soon! [Rips the ticket from his pad and hands it to the leader and exits.]

Leader: Good Friend Citation? Well, um, okay, I guess I’m glad I got one. And I’m glad people reported me, I guess. And today we are going to talk about how to be good friends.

*CHARACTERS: These are suggested characters and names. Please feel free to change or adjust to suit your kids’ needs and tastes.
DIRECTOR’S NOTES
The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.
You will need a ping-pong paddle and a lady’s hat.

INTRODUCTION
[Enter Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip.]

Dee: Hey, everyone. Raise your hand if you like to do stuff with your friends. [Allow time for kids to raise hands.] Well, what kind of things do you like to do with your friends? [Allow time for audience to respond.]

Paul: Is today’s story about friends?

Cy: Yes. It is about a time when I wasn’t being a very good friend to Dee.

Dee: I think I remember. I wasn’t being a very good friend either.

Paul: Well, let’s tell the story. I’ll, um, play Dee’s mom. Chip will play himself. [Chip barks.] Let’s go!

[Exit Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip.]

SCRIPT
[Dee is onstage, pacing back and forth.]

Dee: I wonder what is taking Cy so long! His mom told him that I was here. [Stops pacing. Whistles for a minute then starts counting to 100. Paces again. This whole time Chip follows her around. Finally Cy enters.]

Cy: Hi, Dee. Sorry it took me so long. I was drawing a picture of Chaz Johnson, the basketball player, and I wanted to finish.

Dee: That’s okay, Cy. Do you want to play a game?

Cy: Sure! How about ping-pong?

Dee: Okay, that sounds fun!

Cy: There’s just one problem. I don’t remember where I put my other paddle. Hmm, where did I put that paddle? [Chip barks and exits. Returns a moment later with a ping-pong paddle in his mouth.] Wow, Chip, you sure are a good listener! [Chip drops the paddle, barks, and picks it back up again.] Well, let’s start playing, Dee.

Adult: [Calls from offstage.] Cy! Cy! The Chaz Johnson show is on television. [Calls back.] Thanks, Mom! Dee, I’ll be right back. I want to go watch this show. [Before Dee can answer, he runs off-stage.]

Dee: [Stares in the direction that Cy ran.] Boy, it sure doesn’t seem like Cy wants to spend time with me. [Looks at Chip.] I guess we’ll just go home.

[Dee and Chip exit. Chip drops the ping-pong paddle from his mouth right before. Blackout. When the lights come back on, Dee and Paul are onstage. Paul is wearing a lady’s hat and speaking in a high voice as Mrs. Morgan.]

Paul: Dee, honey, I thought you were going to Cy’s to play.

Dee: [Shrugs.] I don’t think Cy wants to be my friend anymore, Mom.

Paul: Are you sure, Dee? Cy’s been a good friend to you.

Dee: Well, he doesn’t even want to spend time with me. All he cares about is sports.

Paul: I see.

Dee: Today when I went over, he left me by myself for a long time, because he wanted to finish drawing a picture. Then he said that he would play ping-pong, but when his favorite sports show came on TV he just left me. I thought friends liked to do stuff together. He’s not being a very good friend to me! He’s just ignoring me.

Paul: Sort of like you did with Jesus this morning?

Dee: What do you mean?

Paul: Well, as soon as you got up this morning, you wanted to go listen to music. When I asked if you were ready for a Bible story you said you wanted to finish listening. Then it seemed like you forgot all about it and went to Cy’s house instead.

Dee: I guess I forgot.

Paul: Friends do need to spend time together, talking and listening. If we want to be Jesus’ good friend, then we need to spend time with Him, reading His Word and praying.

Dee: I didn’t think of that. I guess I wasn’t being a very good friend, either. I do want to be a good friend to Jesus. Can we read that Bible story now, Mom? And then I’ll go back to Cy’s. I know that he really has been a good friend to me!

[Curtain.]
APPLICATION

Cy: I sure wasn’t a good friend to you that day, Dee. Thanks for coming back and talking to me about it.

Dee: And thanks for listening when I told you how I felt.

Paul: We really learned a lot about being friends, didn’t we?

Cy: That’s right! We learned that good friends spend time with each other...listening and talking!

Dee: And my mom taught us that we can be a good friend to Jesus, too, by reading His Word and praying. That’s how we spend time with Him.

Paul: I’m glad that you two are my friends! [To audience.] Hey, kids. Don’t forget to tell your friends that you are thankful for them. Remember to be a good friend by listening and talking to each other! Bye!

[ Curtain. ]
Each DiscipleTown Unit will teach your kids an essential "how to" skill to become victorious disciples of Jesus!