

Who is meant to be in God's family?

Circle the people who are meant to be in God's family.



MEANT TO BE Early Childhood Lesson

Lesson Truth:

We are all meant to be in God's family.

Bible Verse:

1 Corinthians 12:18 (NRSV) "But as it is, God arranged the members of the body, each one of them, as he chose."

Opening Prayer:

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us. Thank you for loving us all the same. We are all part of your family. Help us remember that. Help us be kind to others. Help us show love to others. In your name we pray. Amen.

Opening Thoughts

Let's play a game called **Who Belongs**.

When I call out something, if you have it or are wearing it or believe it **stand up & yell I belong!** For example... if you are wearing red today, stand up... now yell I belong!

Great! Now sit down... here we go:

- Like to swim
- Have a pet
- Like cookies
- Have a bike
- Wearing blue

Here's a tricky one... is everyone listening?

Who is in **(name of teacher's)** class... that's right! Everyone should be standing. Everyone is in my class. Everyone is meant to be here!

Good job; now sit down and let me talk to you about another place that we are all meant to be.

Message

Did you know that Jesus was a teacher? Yes, Jesus taught people about his Father, God, just like I teach you about God. One time Jesus was teaching people on a hillside about some of the things that God wants us to know. You can find the stories in here, the Bible (show the Bible). While Jesus was teaching, some parents brought their children to him. They wanted Jesus to bless them. When some people tried to tell

the parents to take the children away, Jesus said, (open your Bible to read verse) "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. The kingdom of heaven belongs to people like them." (Matthew 19:14 NIV)

Isn't that wonderful? Jesus said that even the children are meant to be in God's family!

- Do you think mommies are meant to be in God's family?
- Do you think daddies are meant to be in God's family?
- Do you think brothers & sisters are meant to be in God's family?

Yes... we are ALL meant to be in God's family.

- Do you think people who use a wheelchair are meant to be in God's family?
- Do you think people who are blind are meant to be in God's family?
- Do you think people who can't hear are meant to be in God's family?

Yes... we are ALL meant to be in God's family. Let's pray...

Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for being a teacher. Thank you for loving children. Thank you for the Bible. help us remember that everyone is meant to be in your family. Help us love others. Help us tell others about you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.