



HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

“Follow Me”

Children’s Activity

This activity connects Jesus calling the disciples (John 1:43-51) with Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Human Relations Day.

Supplies needed:

- Poster board
- Markers
- Stickers
- Glitter
- Other embellishments for signs

Jesus said to him, “Follow me.”

John 1:43 (CEB)

Did you ever play the game “Follow the Leader”? Follow me and do what I do (make various movements including stopping and praying, singing a song, pantomime putting your arm around someone in comfort.)

Jesus came to earth to show us a better way to live. He taught us to love God and God’s people. Today we heard about Jesus’ new friends. He invited them to follow him. He told them that as disciples, people who follow Jesus, they would see amazing things through God’s love.

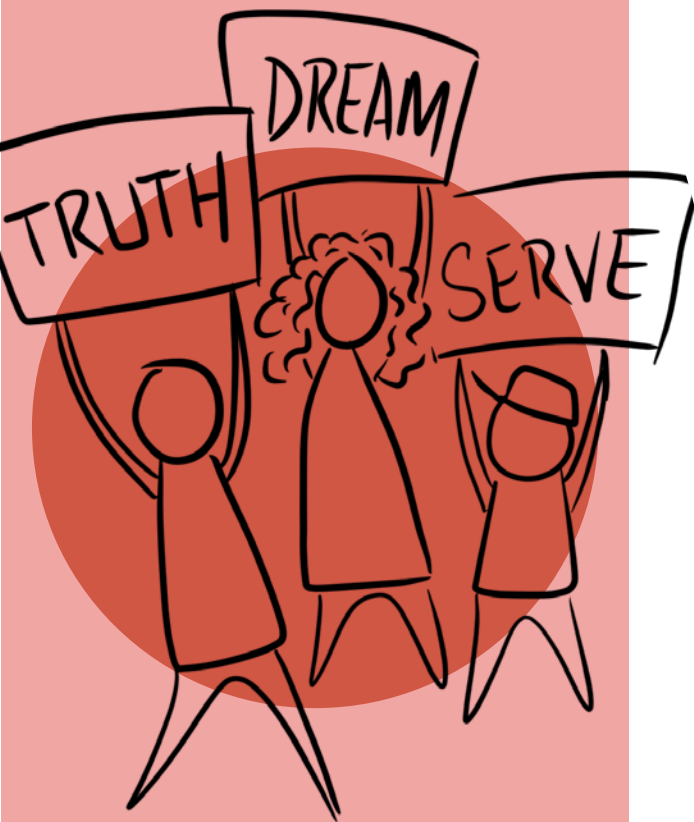
One way we follow Jesus is to do what he taught us. We care for one another and do what we can to help our neighbors. This past year, one of the ways we cared for our neighbors was by washing our hands and wearing our masks.

Today in our church we observe Human Relations Day. We follow Jesus’ teachings by thinking about the best way to create strong and healthy neighborhoods. We don’t do it on our own. But along with many other churches like ours, we work together to make a difference.

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This week, we also celebrate the life of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. He was an African American minister who followed Jesus' teachings. He tried to create fair laws for African Americans in the United States.

People who joined King in following Jesus for civil rights carried signs and raised their voices in the streets and wrote letters to lawmakers asking for fair laws.

Today we will make signs that you can decorate and add your favorite quote or word from King.

Quotes and words the children might copy:

- The time is always ripe to do right.
- A lie cannot live.
- I have decided to stick with love.
- Whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.
- Only in the darkness can you see the stars.
- Everybody can be great . . . because anybody can serve.
- No person has the right to rain on your dreams.
- If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.
- Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice anywhere.
- I have a dream.
- "Free at last! Free at last!"
- Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"
- There's something about love that builds up and is creative.
- Truth
- Justice
- Fairness
- Equal
- Dream
- Serve
- Freedom

After creating the signs, invite the children to read the quote and share what they like about it.