



**What a Good Friend Does**  
**A Lesson on Friendship**  
**Grades 1-3**

**Goal:**

Students will learn the difference between treating others with respect and using others as a means to an end. Activities will reinforce the qualities of a good friend, and what each of our responsibility is toward others.

**Lesson:**

Begin by talking with the students about friendship. God made us all in his image, and he is Trinity. In the Trinity, there are 3 persons though only one God. This means that God is always living in the most perfect friendship within himself. Difficult to understand at times, but it means for us that God created us to be in friendship with others all the time.

**Discussion:**

- What does it mean to be a good friend?
- What are some of the qualities you like in friends?
- What are some of the qualities you try to have yourself to be a good friend to others?
- Use “Resources for Teaching Friendship Skills” as a conversation starter.

**Activity:**

Ask students to pair up with someone they might not know well or play with very often. Tell them that part of being a good friend is recognizing the good qualities in other people, even if you don't know them well. Ask them to fill in the [“Friendship Chart”](#) with either words or drawings about their partner.

**Watch:**

[“Pixar Tennis Birds”](#) short video. Play on mute to avoid commercial content. (30 seconds)

Talk about negative influences to friendship. Why is laughing at someone else or sharing secrets harmful to friendship? What can we learn from the Golden Rule?

**Watch:** Frog and Toad Stories

[Frog and Toad--the Letter](#), 4 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

[Frog and Toad--Cookies](#), 4 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

[Frog and Toad--the Garden](#), 5 minute video of the classic children's book by Arnold Lobel

**Discussion:**

- What makes Frog and Toad such good friends?
- What qualities do they have that make them care for each other so much?
- What can we do to gain those qualities to be a good friend?
- Should we be friends to just those people that we know and like? Or does Jesus ask us to go out of our way to be friends with people who don't have friends and might get left out.
- How can we do it with a smile?

**PRAYER**

Heavenly Father,  
You created us in your image of love and friendship.  
Help us to be good friends to everyone we meet.  
Help us to share what we have with those without.  
Help us to be kind to those in need.  
Help us to be loyal to friend who trust us.  
You showed us that good friend will do anything for each other.  
And that friendship is important to be a good Christian.  
We ask you to send your love into our hearts.  
Let us know you always love us.  
Help us share your love with all of our friends.

AMEN

**Teachers' Note:**

*This day's activities correspond with the study of Human Trafficking for the older grades. Part of this discussion focused on keeping kids safe, particularly on the internet. On the website, you will find resources for internet safety for kids of all ages. Please review these and share them with your class parents as appropriate.*