Children’s Sermon

Items needed: Jigsaw puzzle pieces.

Give each child a puzzle piece before you begin.

How many of you like to work jigsaw puzzles? Today I brought one with me to help us think about the Kingdom of God and the part we each have in that kingdom.

The Kingdom of God is a lot like this puzzle and each person is like a piece of this puzzle. Take a look at the puzzle piece I gave you. Notice the shape and the design on the front of your piece. Can you tell what the completed puzzle is going to look like by just looking at your piece? No, we need to put all the pieces together to be able to see the full picture. Now look at the piece of a person sitting next to you. Are your pieces the same? (No). Is your piece more important than anyone else’s? We need each and every piece to complete the puzzle, so no piece is more important than another.

We are much like these puzzle pieces. We are each uniquely created. We come in all shapes, sizes, and with a variety of designs. Yet, no one is more important that anyone else. We are all important and needed to complete the fullness of God’s Kingdom here on earth.

Now notice the places on your piece that stick out. We’ll call these parts tabs. Notice the places that curve inward. We’ll call these parts notches. Notice that some pieces have both tabs and notches, while others have only tabs or only notches. These tabs and notches are the most important part of each puzzle piece. They are what connects and holds our puzzle together.

Again, we are like our puzzle pieces. The tabs on our pieces remind us of the things we have that we can use to “reach out” to help others; while the notches remind us of areas of our lives where we may need others to help fill a need we have.

There are many ways we can use our “tabs” to reach out and help fill the “notches” of others. One of the ways we can do this during Advent, is to give to The Bishop’s Christmas Offering. By giving to this special offering, we are able to help fill the needs of children all across Indiana who may have more “notches than tabs”.

It is through our giving and receiving the we are connected and held together so that the fullness and beauty of God’s Kingdom can be revealed.

Now, take your puzzle piece. Hold it tightly in your hand and pray with me.

Dear God, As we hold these simple puzzle pieces in our hands, remind us of our small part in your greater Kingdom. Remind us that each and everyone of us has a piece that is needed to bring your Kingdom to earth. God, like the tabs on our puzzle pieces, help us to reach out and to fill the “notches” and needs of others. Amen.

*Children’s Sermon may be used in part, in whole, or as inspiration for your own children’s time.*

*(See back for more resources)*
Congregational Prayer

Dear Lord,

We pray that children in Indiana and across the globe will be blessed by this offering; that they will know you as Jehovah Jireh, the One who provides. We ask that you bless this offering in ways we cannot ask or imagine, so that children will be impacted eternally by the love of Jesus. Thank you for how you will work in their lives.

May you alone be glorified!

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.