

DAYFOUR

LIVING TOGETHER

Friday July 31, 2020

REFLECTION

Throughout this week, God has planted a seed in you — a dream where we all live in together in God’s love — helping each other overcome challenges — taking care of each other and God’ creation. Let this dream take root in you, grow-up in you, and make even more seed for those who come after you.

I wonder what your dreams are? I wonder what you think God’s plan for living together looks like? Sounds like? Feels like?

When we grow in God’s love, we become like contagious crops — multiplying God’s love in our friends, families, communities, and even in ourselves.

I wonder in what ways we can show others we’re growing in God’s love?

Who knows what kind of harvest will come from this week’s ReNew? No one really knows yet, but the seed of God’s Love — whose name is Jesus — has been sown, rooted, and planted in us. We are invited to live like God’s dream for creation **is** a reality. Right this very moment.

I wonder how we can show our love towards God’s creation? In a small way? In a medium way? In a big way? I wonder how we can show our love towards our planet each and every day? I wonder what we can focus on in our home to show our love towards creation?

Note for parents:

We’ll be wrapping up ReNew today with two activities — one you lead at home, and one where you join other VBSers on Zoom at 12:00 PM during the Closing Ceremony. **The latter activity is a surprise for kids** — but not for adults. Take a look at your **e-mail on Thursday evening** to discover the mystery activity.

Crayon Creation

Note: Remove paper from the crayons we've provided before starting the activity. Speed it up by soaking crayons in warm water.



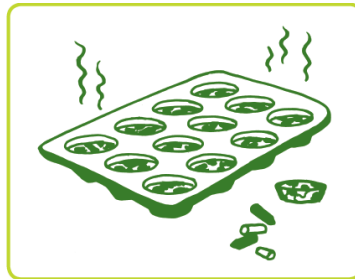
What will kids do? Kids use crayon stubs to create multi-colored crayons as gifts to the church.



Why is this activity important? Community rooted in God's love creates a foundation for sharing, spreading joy, and serving as a garden of peace, where old things can be made new and new growth takes place.

Leader Tip

If kids place all crayon colors in the same cup, they will melt with strips of color. Consider placing crayons into color groups and pouring the melted wax in the muffin



Get Ready

- old crayons
- microwave oven (1 or more)
- glass measuring cup, 1 per group
- muffin tins or egg cartons, enough for all melted crayons

A small problem in homes and churches—broken crayons—can be a big problem when all collected. **Today we'll combine our heads, hands, and hearts to make something new from the old.**

Tell kids you've come with the beginning part of a solution and the supplies to make it happen. They will use their hands and, while they work, use their hearts to decide who will receive the *new* crayons. Describe the process.

1. Divide kids into groups. (Each group needs a measuring cup.)
2. Peel paper off the crayons, recycling paper scraps. You can speed this up by soaking the crayons in water.
3. Melt cups of crayons in the microwave, basing your time on your pre-class test.
4. Pour melted crayons into muffin trays. **THE MIXTURE WILL BE HOT!** Supervise this step carefully, perhaps wearing non-latex gloves.

Afterwards: Join us at 12:00 on Zoom for the closing activity, and final activity!