

Buddy Break Crafts

(Themed crafts based on the month)

AUGUST: BACK TO SCHOOL

SUPPLIES:

- 11 Popsicle sticks per kid
- 2 Red circle stickers/gems
- 1 Photo, either have someone take a picture and develop it, have them bring one from home, or have them draw a self portrait markers/paints (yellow, gray, and black)
- 1 Hot glue gun and glue sticks/or normal glue (*thinking hot glue would work better*)
- Small squares of white paper

DIRECTIONS:

1. Paint 8 popsicle sticks yellow, 2 popsicle sticks black and 1 stick gray
2. Place 4 popsicle sticks in a square and glue them together in that shape (ends overlapping)
3. Glue 2 more yellow popsicle sticks horizontal to the top possible stick to create the top "hood" of the bus
4. Repeat Step 3 with the bottom popsicle stick to create the bottom of the bus
5. Glue the gray popsicle stick to the bottom of the frame to create the "back bumper" of the bus
6. Glue two red circles above the gray bumper to represent the "tail lights" of the bus
7. Place drawing/photo of the child in the back of the frame, gluing the 4 edges to the backs of the popsicle sticks
8. Glue the two black popsicle sticks halfway down the back of the picture frame so that the ends of the popsicle sticks show under the "back bumper" these will represent the "wheels"
9. Have the students take a small square of white paper and write their name (or have buddy write their name)
10. Glue the white square on the grey popsicle stick, this will represent the "license plate"



Jesus Tie-Back:

As you are going off to school, remember that Jesus goes before you, behind you, and walks beside you so you do not need to be afraid! Work hard for His glory and know that He loves you very much!

Colossians 3:23 says "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for The Lord, not for men."

AUGUST: BACK TO SCHOOL

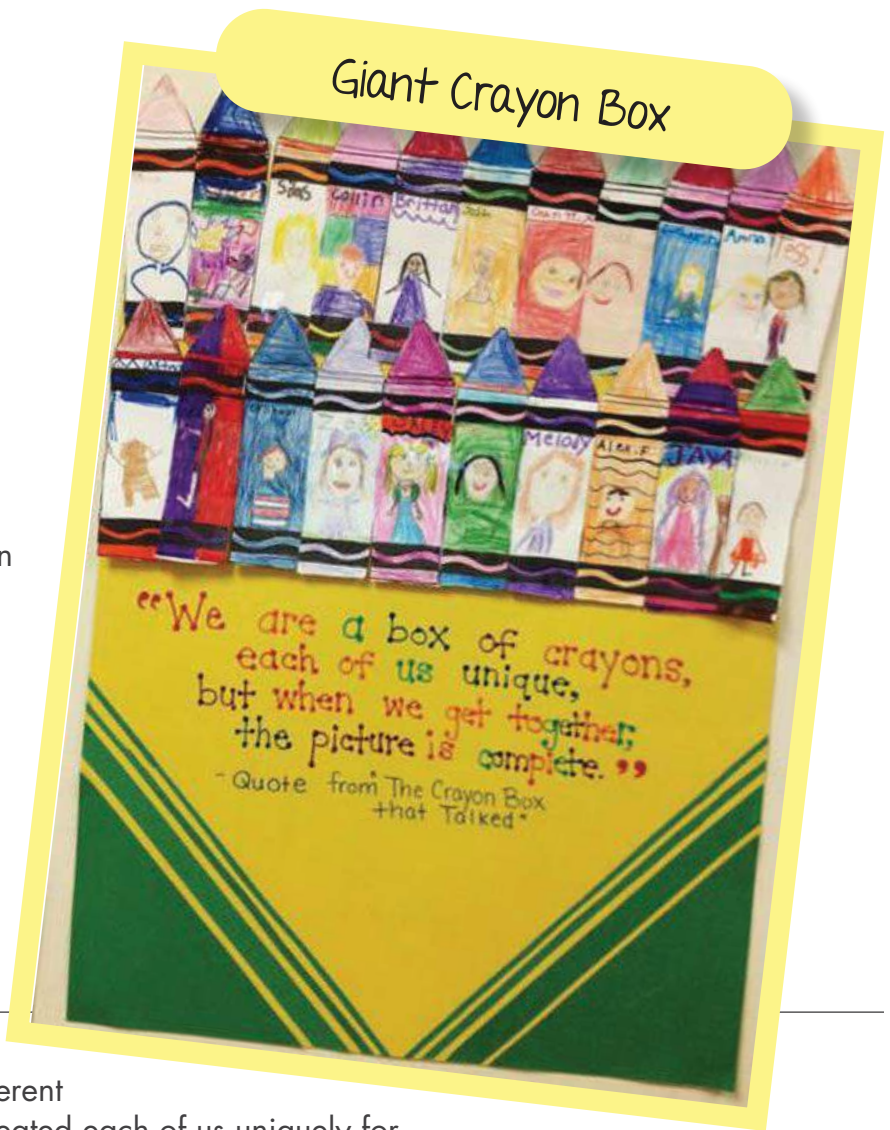
SUPPLIES:

- Printed cutouts of crayons
- Markers/Crayons
- 1 Tape to stick on wall
- 1 Poster board to make the "box"

DIRECTIONS:

1. Give each student a blank cutout crayon and a few boxes of crayons and markers for the table
2. Have the kids draw a self portrait on the crayon and color it in
3. Either before the kids come or as they are coloring their crayons, have the staff make the poster board look like the bottom half of the crayon box
4. Lastly, staff will take all of the crayons and arrange them to look like the inside of a crayon box above the poster board

Giant Crayon Box



Jesus Tie-Back:

Just as each crayon is unique and a different color from all the other crayons, God created each of us uniquely for His Glory because of His Great Love for us. When we all work together, we can create a beautiful colorful masterpiece.

Psalm 139: 13-14 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

SEPTEMBER: FALL

SUPPLIES:

- Brown paint (dark and light)
- Orange, yellow, red (fall colors) construction paper
- Markers to write names
- Paper bowls and plates
- Paper towels
- Paintbrushes
- Wet wipes

DIRECTIONS:

Before kids get there have staff set up a few plates of light brown paint and a few bowls of dark brown paint at each table/station

1. Let each kid pick their color construction paper
2. Have kid write their names on the bottom of the piece of paper
3. Have staff/ buddies help each kid dip one of their hands in the light brown paint so that the whole palm and each of the fingers are covered
4. Place the painted hand in the center of the construction paper (This will serve as the bottom seedling part of the acorn)
5. Wipe the kids hands off with the wet wipes/sink
6. Then have kids use their paintbrushes to paint a half circle around the top of the hand print using the dark brown paint (opposite the fingers.) This will form the acorn's "hat"
7. Paint a short line coming off the top of the center of the half circle with the dark brown paint to form the "stem"
8. Let dry!!



Jesus Tie-Back:

Just as an acorn falls to the soil and grows into a big tree with the help of water and sunlight, nourishing our hearts with the truth of Who Jesus is helps us grow and deepen our relationship with Jesus! The first step to growing is "FALL-ing" in love with Jesus!

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." Knowing and believing this is the first step to falling in love with Jesus.

OCTOBER: HALLOWEEN/HARVEST

SUPPLIES:

- Mini pumpkins
- Paints
- Stickers
- Sharpies

DIRECTIONS:

1. Make sure each kid has a mini pumpkin
2. Write their name on the bottom of the pumpkin with sharpie
3. Let the kiddos decorate with the craft supplies given!

Jesus Tie-Back:

In the Bible, the harvest season, which we are in now, was always described as the most joyful season of the year! After the farmers had worked hard all year, they were finally seeing the fruit (and vegetables hehehe) of their efforts! What are some things you have worked hard on this year that you are eagerly waiting to see the joyful results from?

Psalm 85:12 says, "Indeed, The Lord will give what is good, And our land will yield its produce."

Harvest Pumpkins



NOVEMBER: THANKSGIVING

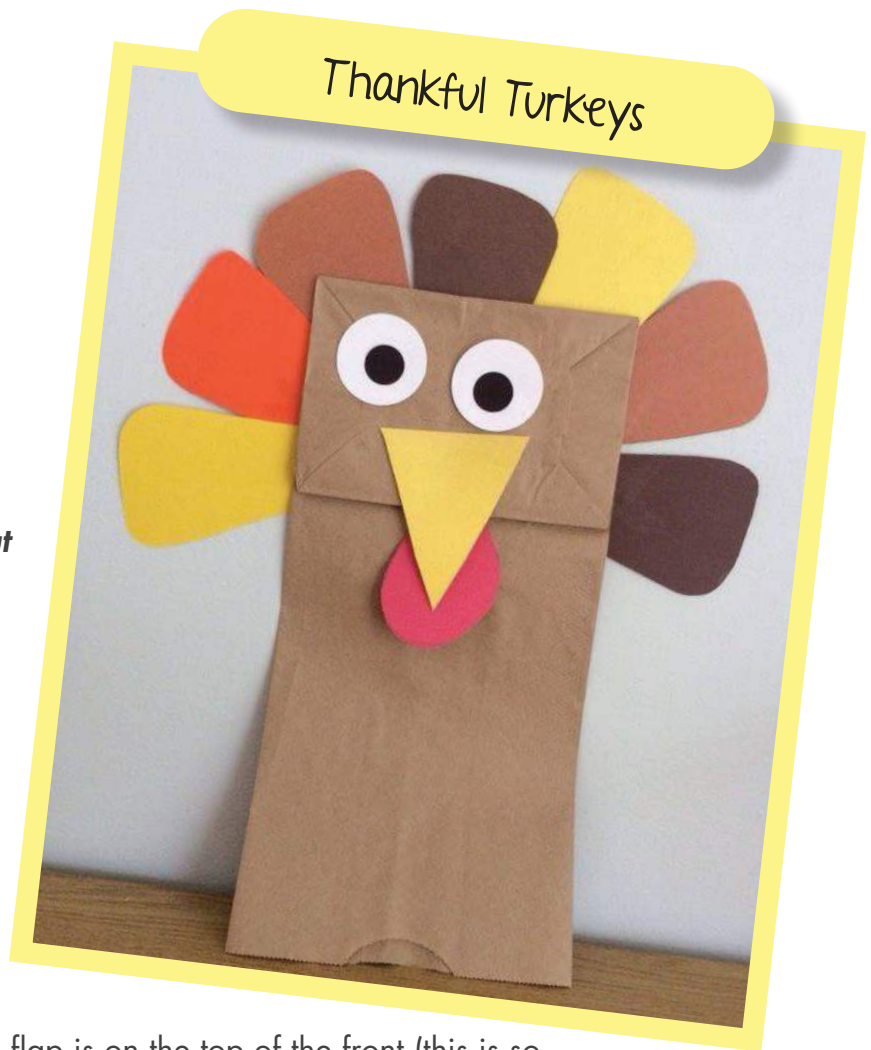
SUPPLIES:

- 1 Paper bag per kid
- Construction paper (red, yellow, orange, brown)
- 2 Googly eyes per kid
- Markers
- Maybe sharpies to write names

DIRECTIONS:

Serve staff may want to go ahead and cut enough yellow triangles, red circles, and feathers for all the kids so that they don't have to waste time cutting

1. Cut the different fall colored construction paper into small triangles, these will represent the "feathers", each kid should have about 7 "feathers"
2. On the back of each feather, have the kid write one thing they are thankful for
3. Flip the paper bag so that the bottom flap is on the top of the front (this is so the bag fits over the kid's hand like a puppet)
4. The top flap will be the turkey's face, have each kid glue 2 googly eyes to the center of the flap
5. Under the eyes, have each kid glue a yellow triangle (pointing to the bottom of the bag) This will represent the "beak"
6. (Open option) Have each kid place a red circle under the "beak" to represent the "gizzard"
7. Once the face of the turkey is done, have the kids glue their 7 feathers on the back of the turkey's head
8. Optional: Using the turkey as a puppet, have a few kids share what they are thankful for in their best turkey voice!



Jesus Tie-back:

Jesus calls us to walk through life with thankful hearts, "rejoicing always!" He has given us so many things to be thankful for, including His sacrifice for us on the cross so that we could know and experience life with Him!

Psalm 9:1 I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS

SUPPLIES:

- 2 Paper plates per kid
- Black construction paper (or buttons)
- Orange, purple, yellow construction paper
- 2 Large googly eyes per kid
- Black markers
- Hot glue gun and glue
- Elmer's glue

DIRECTIONS:

Staff may want to cut construction paper into mittens, feet, scarfs, "buttons" and carrot noses beforehand, adults will use the hot glue gun for their roles, kids will use the Elmer's glue

1. Make sure every kid has two plates and put their names on the back of each
2. Have staff help hot glue the two plates so that they go together forming an "8" like shape, these will represent the two "snowballs" that make up the snowman
3. Once the plates are glued together, have each student glue their 2 googly eyes on the center of the top plate, this top plate will eventually be the snowman's face
4. Under the eyes, have each kid glue the "carrot nose" onto the plate
5. Then, using a black marker, have each student draw the snowman's smile under their "carrot nose"
6. Next, using the black construction paper circles the staff previously cut, have each student glue 3 "buttons" onto the center of the belly of the snowman
7. On top of where the two plates are connected, the "neck" of the snowman, have each kid glue the yellow scarf onto their snowman
8. Turning the snowman over, have the kids glue the snowman's mittens on the top middle of the bottom plate, leaving enough of the mitten unglued so that you can see the mittens peeking out on the front of the snowman
9. Repeat step 8 with the snowman's feet on the bottom center of the bottom plate.

Paper Plate Snowmen



Jesus Tie-back:

While Christmas items like snowmen and reindeer are all fun and great, the real reason for Christmas is the baby who was born in a manger for all of us. This baby's name was Jesus, and He would one day become the Savior of the World, giving His life so that all of us could have a relationship with our Heavenly Father!

John 1: 9-14 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

JANUARY: WINTER WONDERLAND

SUPPLIES:

- Popsicle sticks
- White paint
- White feathers, different colored sequins, gems and other fun things to decorate
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

Have the staff paint the popsicle sticks ahead of time to give them time to dry, could also have them go ahead and form the snowflakes as well if feeling pressed for time

1. Have the students arrange their 3 popsicle sticks in the way that they want to form the snowflake, and then have the staff hot glue the sticks together to save time
2. Show the students all the decorations available and let them have fun and go to work decorating their snowflakes!!!!
3. After they are finished, make sure their names are on the back



Jesus Tie-Back:

Studies show that no two snowflakes look alike, which means just like we talked about in August with the different colored crayons, God makes each snowflake unique just like He makes you and I unique! While all snowflakes come together to cover our earth with a blanket of snow, they are each formed for a specific reason that none of the other snowflakes can fill. Similarly, all of us are members of one body in Christ and work together to show His love, but He has given each of us different gifts for His Glory and to accomplish His specific purpose in us!

Romans 12: 3-8 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

FEBRUARY: OLYMPICS

SUPPLIES:

- Red, white, and blue ribbon
- Yellow construction paper
- Markers
- Star stickers
- Sports stickers
- Hole punch

DIRECTIONS:

Have the staff cut yellow construction paper into circles

1. Give each student a yellow circle and help them write their name on the center of it
2. Let each student pick out their piece of ribbon and, using the staffs help, have them punch a hole above their name on the top of the circle and string their ribbon through
3. Tie the ribbon once it is long enough for their neck
4. Let the kids decorate their medal!!!



Jesus Tie-back:

In Hebrews, we are told to run the race marked out for us by Christ. The way we do this is by fixing our eyes on Jesus and trusting in Him! No matter what trials we face or what hurdles we have to jump, Jesus is with us and fighting for us. He will be with you through all things, look to Him for strength and feel the peace that comes from knowing that through Jesus's victory on the Cross we are all winners in Him! As you look at this medal, remember what Jesus has done for you and from a place of victory, keep running your race!

Hebrews 12:1-3 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

MARCH: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

SUPPLIES:

- Markers
- Crayons
- A bunch of different green gems or sequins or feathers etc
- Shamrock cutouts printed

DIRECTIONS:

It should be a fun easy craft day with the freedom for kids to get creative

1. Give each student a shamrock cutout and have them write their name on the back
2. Using all of the green decorations, let the kids be creative and decorate their shamrocks

Jesus Tie-Back:

Did you know that the shamrock is part of the grass? And did you know that Jesus specifically talks about the grass in The Bible?

In Matthew 6, Jesus is telling His followers not to worry. He says, "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all His splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith?" (vs. 28-30). Do you know what this means? Jesus is saying that not only does God care about the grass of the field, but He cares about you infinitely more! Jesus is encouraging us not to be worried or afraid because we have a Heavenly Father who looks out for all of His creation, especially us!



APRIL: EASTER

SUPPLIES:

- Construction paper
- All different colored tissue paper
- Markers
- Elmers glue/glue sticks

DIRECTIONS:

Have the staff cut construction paper into crosses ahead of time

1. Have the kids pick out the tissue paper colors they want to use on their cross
2. Have the kids rip and crumble the tissue paper into little pieces
3. Then, have the kids cover their cross with a light layer of glue, either Elmers or the glue stick
4. Using their pieces of crumpled tissue paper, have the students piece by piece, put the tissue paper on the cross, sticking it to the glue, until the whole cross is covered!
5. Write their names on the back of the cross



Jesus Tie-Back:

This cross is to remind us of the sacrifice Jesus made through His death on the cross for our sins. But thankfully, He is no longer on the cross, He is risen! If we choose to put our faith in Him, we can rise from the grave and live eternally with our Savior! What a gift!!!

John 20:1-18 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

MAY: SPRING

SUPPLIES:

- Construction paper
- Crayons
- Markers
- Tape
- Glue sticks
- Black artist/mural paper
- 1 Green poster board

DIRECTIONS:

1. Have each kid place their hand on a piece of construction paper, and with staff's help, trace it and cut it out, this will form a "flower petal"
2. Once their hand is cut out, show the kids the markers and crayons and let them decorate their flower
3. Make sure the kids write their name somewhere on the flower
4. After all the kids are finished with their "petal" have them go over to the black artist paper and place their "petal" with the others (follow a concentric circle pattern to create a giant flower bud)
5. Staff should then use the green poster board to make a stem and glue it onto the black artist paper under the flower bud
6. Maybe have staff write a verse about God creating the plants, or just write the theme "April Showers Bring May Flowers"



Jesus Tie-Back:

Did you know that not only did God create you and me, but He also created and designed all the plants and flowers of the field? God did this to show the world the beauty of His nature, so that our temporary home on earth would be just a glimpse of the beauty that is to come in our heavenly home!

Genesis 1:11-13 And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

JUNE: BEACH

SUPPLIES:

- Paper plates
- Markers (or paint)
- Large sized googly eyes
- Different colored string
- Hole puncher

DIRECTIONS:

Have the staff cut the paper plates in half beforehand to save time

1. Once each student has their paper plate half, have them (with the help of staff, staff could also do this before hand) punch 8 holes along the flat bottom of their plate
2. Then, have each student color in and decorate the plate
3. Next, have each student place and glue 2 googly eyes on the center of their plate
4. Then, using a marker, encourage the kids to draw a small smiley face under the eyes of the jellyfish
5. Finally, have each student pick out 8 long pieces of string
6. Help the students loop one piece of string per one hole until all 8 holes have string in them. Tie the two ends of the string together in a knot towards the top of the plate so that the string doesn't fall out
7. Write their name on the back of their new "jellyfish pal"



Jesus Tie-Back:

Last month, we talked about how God created all of the plants on the earth. Did you know He made all of the animals too?

Genesis 1:20-21 says, "And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let the birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.' So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good." So as you go to the beach and see all the dolphins, jellyfish, and seagulls, remember that God created each of them, just like He created us!

JULY: PATRIOTIC

SUPPLIES:

- White construction paper
- Red, white, and blue paint
- Paper plates
- Red, white, and blue pom-poms
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

1. Give each kid a piece of construction paper and have them write their names on the back
2. Give each kid one red, white, and blue pom pom
3. Using the blue pom pom have each kid dip the bottom half of the pom pom into the blue paint. Using this pom pom, have each kid make a blue square in the top left corner of their paper (make sure their paper is horizontal) by making little blue dots in a square pattern
4. As you are letting the blue square dry, have each student take their red pom pom and lightly dip it in the red paint. Taking this pom pom, have the kid make red horizontal stripes on their paper by putting a bunch of red dots in a row (see picture above)
5. Finally, as the kid lets their red stripes dry, have them take their white pom-pom and dip it into the white paint. Then, going back to the blue square, have the students put a few white dots in the square to represent the "stars" on the flag.



Jesus Tie-Back:

During July, we celebrate the sacrifice the men and women who serve in our military make by placing their lives on the line for our freedom.

In Galatians 5:13-14 it says, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" The men and women who serve in our military are the perfect example of how we can serve and honor each other in love. How can you honor those around you in love?
