

Week 2

Theme: Love

Movie: How the Grinch Stole Christmas (animated version)



Bible Verse:

Ezekiel 36:26 – I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove your stony heart from your body and replace it with a living one. Let's watch a movie that captures the essence of this lovely Bible verse.

Talking Points:

- The Grinch wants to keep Christmas from coming. Why? His heart is two sizes too small.
- What seems to bother the Grinch most of all? The noise.
- The Grinch can't stand to hear the Whos experiencing and expressing joy. He is only concerned with what he wants.
- On Christmas morning, when the Grinch is standing in the snow, and hears the Whos singing, what happens to him? His heart grows three sizes.

After-Movie Discussion:

- The Grinch tried to keep Christmas from coming. Can anything really stop Christmas? No. Not a Grinch, not a virus, nothing can keep the great gift of love that is Christmas from coming.
- When the Grinch's heart grew, what else changed? He found the strength of ten grinches...plus two!
- Love is the strongest force in the world. When we open our hearts to love, and then share that love with others, we find a strength we never knew we had.
- Christmas is not about things. When we let go of what we think Christmas is "supposed" to look like, what Christmas is "supposed" to sound like, we open our hearts to what Christmas already is – an amazing gift from a God who loves us very much.

Prayer:

Loving God,
Thank you for the gift of Christmas.
Thank you for the gift of love.
Thank you for the gift of you.
Amen.

This family video series by Mark Burrows is a part of the Worship Design series, "I Believe When..." created by Dr. Marcia McFee.