You're a Superhero on a Mission from God

Children's ministry activity for Kindergarten-6th grade

Purpose: To help kids understand that God's love is powerful and he is the ultimate superhero, but we can be his superheroes by spreading his magnetic love.

Devotion time: Approx 25-45 minutes

Supplies

- Red capes (1 per person)
- A random assortment of plastic superhero figures (or pictures will work)
- "I Am" white heart (1 per person)
- Crayons/colored pencils or markers
- Strong magnet (not a tiny one)
- About 10-20 paperclips
- Optional (superhero music—such as Jesus is My Superhero from Hillsong)

<u>Prep:</u>

- Photocopy the white "I AM" heart and cut out for each person
- Optional: Create a photo backdrop from the "I Am Enough" art file (download at www.lifetreefamily.com/capekit)

[kickoff]

SAY: Today we're talking about superheroes and their special powers. Let's start by taking a look at some popular superheroes.

[interaction/shout out: Hold up 1 superhero figure at a time and have kids shout out the name and what special power they have]

ASK: What's similar about the mission of all of these superheroes?

[interaction: 1 minute shout-out share]

SAY: Wow! All of these superheroes have special powers to fight bad guys and help people!

But even though these superheroes are just pretend, did you know the Bible is actually

filled with superheroes who were real people and did amazing things for God?

And do you know that God sent his son Jesus to be our ultimate superhero? Jesus helped many people during his time on earth, but his greatest power came from love. He loved us so much he even died on the cross for us, and came back from the dead to prove how powerful God's love for us was. Jesus lived his life as an example of what it means to be on a mission from God—a mission to love boldly!

Here's what the Bible has to say about this:

READ: 1 John 4:7 *Dear friends, let us continue* to **love** one another, for **love** comes from God. Anyone who **love**s is a child of God and knows God. **SAY:** Do you know what this means? Loving others means we're children of God—the God who created the whole universe! And his love fills us up and that's very powerful! We're on a mission from God to love people—we're his superheroes of love!

[OBJECT LESSON Bring out the magnet and paper clips. Explain that just like the magnet, God's love is a powerful force that draws people to connect to Him. Hold the magnet close to the paper clips and let the paper clips slide towards the magnet. Then create a chain where the strength of the magnet passes through the paper clip and draws more paper clips. Put a piece of paper between the magnet and the paper clips to show the magnetic force isn't stopped.]

REFLECT: Explain how God's love flows through us, even when we can't "see it." Talk about how the force is more powerful when we're closer to God, the source.

ASK: In what ways can we be superheroes to others and connect them to God with our loving actions?

[ACTIVITY: Pass out a white heart and markers to each child. Ask them to write their name under "I AM" and then ask them to draw a picture of themselves showing how they might share God's love with others. Older kids might want to write their thoughts instead of draw them. Allow time for sharing if you'd like.]

SAY: Since you've learned about the ultimate superhero Jesus and the amazing power of God's love and how we can pass it on, let's put on our love capes! But first let's pray—praying is another way we can connect to God's loving power!

PRAY: Thank you God for sending your son Jesus as an example of your love. And thank you for inviting us to be superheroes on a mission to love boldly and be magnets for you! We know your love always covers us!

[pass out capes and have kids put them on. For younger kids, you might want to play some fun superhero music and have a cape dance party.]

PHOTO BOOTH IDEA:

Take a photo of each child in their cape (you can download the art file for the photo booth backdrop). Make a collage, and/or hand out the photos the following week and ask them to put it somewhere in their room as a reminder.

OPTIONAL CLOSING ACTIVITY FOR OLDER KIDS: Plan a caped adventure where kids do something around the church to show love such as praying in front of different classrooms, offering to help clean something up, put away chairs, etc.