Dear Parents,

THIS MONTH /// This week marks the beginning of lesson seven of the JOI Friendzy Curriculum. The lesson this week is the cornerstone of the whole curriculum! This week's lesson teaches your student that **I Am Chosen.** We will discuss and dive into God's Word to discover what an incredible gift it is that Jesus Chooses us! It is a game changer.

Catchphrase (main point for students to catch onto):

"I Am Chosen"

Key Verse (Biblical anchor points):

"You did not choose me, but I chose you." John 15:16 (NLT)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

Continue the Conversation (discuss the following points at home):

- 1. Jesus chose you and will be your best friend. Far before you knew about Jesus, He loved you. He chose each of us first. He will be your best friend. He is always there for you, He listens and answers prayer, and He gives us guidance and wisdom through His Word.
- 2. Jesus uniquely made you, and you are valuable. Each and every person was created in the image of God. You have value, and the unique characteristics and gifts you possess were given to you by God, on purpose, so that you can fulfill His purposes for your life.
- **3. Each person has been given unique strengths and gifts**. The strengths that God has given to you may look may look different than your classmates and friends. Celebrate your differences. Your differences make you a stronger team.
- 4. When you recognize your value, you can recognize the value of others. It's often easy to think about the things that you wish you were better at. Today, stop to consider the things that you like about yourself and thank God for choosing you, speaking value over your life and being a giver of good gifts.

The truth revealed in the scripture found in John 15:16 is truly remarkable. As we navigate through the ups and downs of friendships in our lives, we look to Jesus as our example. No one will ever be a better friend than Jesus. And when we experience the close

relationship available to us through Jesus Christ, it is a game changer! The reality that Jesus chooses us to be His friend helps us with every friendship challenge we encounter. When we live into our "chosenness" it produces the good fruit of a secured identity and resiliency in the face of difficulties.

THE MAIN POINT /// Students who know they are valuable, act and respond very differently than students who do not know their value and worth. Take some time over the next few weeks to remind your students that you value you them.

Over the next few weeks, we hope your student will begin to use this lesson's catchphrase:

"I Am Chosen". This is the main point that we want the students to catch on to and use over and over.

CHOSE TO SHARE /// What do you value about your student? We will be talking about our value and worth as a class. I will share anonymously what you share with the class.

When kids learn friendship, they learn it for life!

Blessings,