

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

One More Time Go the Extra Mile Matthew 5:41

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be kinder than you have to be.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient. Colossians 3:12, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Kindness—Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction** Early Arriver Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35 MIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- MONTHLY CHALLENGE - KINDNESS

- Each grade challenges/encourages the others towards KINDNESS - share stories every week with your leaders of YOU showing kindness

- We will celebrate/show how much KINDNESS we can share this month by grade level

- LOVE WORKS SUNDAY - use flier to promote items collected for Hope Women's Center

WORSHIP:

- THE BEST IS YET TO COME

- GRAVES INTO GARDENS

SMALL GROUP

25



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME
		25 MINUTES	10 MINUTES		

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, friends! It's great to see you today. Can anybody remember what we're talking about this month? (*Pause for response.*) That's right! This month is all about kindness.

SLIDE: LIFE APP OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"Kindness is showing others they are valuable by how you treat them.

SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"Every day when we wake up, we can choose to 'put on' kindness, just like we put on our clothes. That's what the apostle Paul wrote in our memory verse, Colossians 3:12. Say it with me."

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

HOST: "When you show kindness, it's like you're a Super Fan of someone. You cheer them on! Today, we'll cheer for our leaders/volunteers as they go head to head in a new kind of competition.



Two leaders/volunteers will race each other as they do some 'Tissue Box Speed Skating'!

Choose two leaders/volunteers from each grade to compete. Give each person two empty tissue boxes to put on their feet and have them stand at the beginning of the taped course.

"Today's competition will require speed and skill. These leaders/volunteers will speed-skate around the room. The first one to cross the finish line will be our winner. YOUR job is to show kindness by cheering them on! (*Pause.*) You know, I feel like this is maybe too easy. (to audience) Should we make it just a little more challenging for [leaders' names]? (*Pause for response.*) Great! I've got a perfect idea!

Walk off stage then return with two hula hoops. Hand a hoop to each leader.

"While our fearless leaders skate around the room at lightning speed, they will also have to hula!

(to the two leaders) "Okay, speed skaters, are you ready? (Pause for response.) Super Fans, are you ready? (Pause for response.) On your mark, get set, GO!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

Cheer for the leaders as they "skate" around the room. When they're about to finish, have them do one more lap. (This will connect with the story later.) Celebrate **a**ll contestants as you dismiss them to their seats.

"That was incredible! You were all really great Super Fans! It was really funny when they thought they were almost done with the race then we made them go one more lap! That actually reminds me of the story we'll hear in a few minutes. But, for now, let's all get on our feet and get ready to sing and worship God together."

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hey, friends! I hope you came in here ready to shine bright. When we show God's love to others, it's like we're shining His light for all to see. Sing this with me.

AUDIO: THE BEST IS YET TO COME

AUDIO: GRAVES INTO GARDENS



WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "When Jesus told His friends to 'go the extra mile,' He meant that they should go farther than they had to. But He wasn't just talking about walking and carrying a heavy pack.

"He meant that we should show kindness because we WANT to . . . not because we HAVE to. We can choose to show MORE kindness than we have to, because we know the person is valuable. We know that they're made in the image of God.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

HOST: "I love how Jesus made people think about kindness in a whole new way. Jesus taught that we can show others they're valuable by the way we treat them. After all, every single person in the whole world is made in God's image!

"Jesus SHOWED us what He meant in the way He treated people, too. He treated people with love, patience, and forgiveness.

"You can show people that they're valuable by treating them with kindness. You can be kind when people are expecting you to . . . and even when they're not. That's a great way to **[Basic Truth] treat others the way you want to be treated!**

"Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Be kinder than you have to be.

COMMUNICATOR: "Today as you go to groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION SLIDE

"Have you ever received unexpected kindness? If so, what was your reaction to it? Then imagine what others could experience when you have the opportunity and means to show unexpected . . . 'Extra Mile Kindness' to them. If you're not sure or haven't experienced kindness like that, that's ok, too. A lot of us haven't, but that doesn't mean we can't show it to others. You'll have a chance to talk more about this with your Small Group and brainstorm all sorts of ideas together. Before we head out, let's pray and thank God for showing us extra-mile kindness by sending Jesus to rescue us! Let's pray."