



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for always being kind toward us and showing us the ultimate kindness by sending Jesus. Ask God to give kids a spirit of kindness, that they wouldn't simply "be nice" but that they would be genuinely kind to those around them.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be Kind
The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive and ask them how their summer is going so far.
- Invite kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Play a game of "This or That."
- Instruct kids to go to one side of the room or the other, depending on which activity they like better.
- Call out the following ideas (feel free to add your own), while kids walk to either side of the room to show their preferences.
- If you choose, assign different ways to move for each round, such as crawling, skipping, hopping on one foot, crab walking, etc.
 - Skateboarding or scootering
 - Riding bikes or swimming
 - Going to the lake or going on a hike
 - Camping or staying in a hotel
 - Visiting family or hanging out with friends
 - Road trip or plane ride
 - Amusement Park or arcade
 - Popsicles or ice cream cones
 - Video games or reading a book
 - Lemonade or iced tea
 - Watching YouTube™ or going to a movie

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Show kindness to everyone.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns."
Philippians 1:6, NIV

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

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





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ONE
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K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



SWEET KINDNESS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Skittles® or small colored beads, blocks, etc.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite each kid to choose seven candies or beads.
- Choose seven candies yourself.
- For each color of their candy, instruct the kids to share an idea in that category.
 - Red: Something kind someone has done for you in the past
 - Orange: Something kind you did for someone else in the past
 - Yellow: An example of kindness from TV, movies, media, or books
 - Green: Say something kind about someone else in this small group
 - Purple: something kind you could do *this week*
- After everyone has shared—yourself included—invite the kids to eat their treats.
- If using non-edible items, collect them after sharing time.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"You all know what kindness looks like! It sounds like you have practiced being kind and you've had some kindness come your way. You know how to **show kindness to everyone.**

"Do you think there's a difference between being nice and being kind? (*Allow discussion: you can be nice without really meaning it, nice could just mean polite, etc.*) Kindness isn't just being polite; it's treating people the way you want to be treated. It means you treat people like they are important. You think of what **THEY** need or want, not just what **YOU** need or want.

"If you want to be kind to someone, what would be a good first step? (*Invite responses. This might require some prompting—getting to know them, asking about what they like/need/want, showing empathy.*) We can be kind to strangers, but we can be even more kind to people we get to know! In our Bible story, the Samaritan started by helping a stranger on the side of the road, but later they were at the inn, and the Samaritan got a room for the injured man and took care of him for a while."

[Make It Personal] (Share about a time when kindness led to friendship or you were able to be specifically kind to a friend. Maybe you knew just what to send a sick friend to cheer them up and it was perfect—more than just nice, but truly kind, or you were kind to a new coworker and became friends.)

Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- Would you rather be described as nice or kind? Why?
- Who is the kindest person you know? How do they show kindness?
- How can you be kind to someone you don't even like?



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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



CATCH THE WAVE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Catch the Wave" Activity Page, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Introduce the memory verse by guiding kids to look up and "read" the verse using Bible navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be Kind

The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to "Philippians" at the top of the page as you say, "Philippians." Then guide kids to find the big number 1 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 1 for the little 6; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Show kindness to everyone.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find "Philippians" in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Philippians starts with the letters P-H. When the kids find Philippians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Philippians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Philippians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 6 in chapter 1.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns."
Philippians 1:6, NIV

- Unpack the phrase "God began a good work," emphasizing that when we put our faith in Jesus, we have God's Spirit to help us. God's Spirit helps us **show kindness to everyone.**
- Lead kids in a variation of "Mother, May I?"
- Help kids get into pairs and line up shoulder to shoulder at one end of your environment while you stand at the opposite end. (Playing in pairs can help shy or reluctant kids enjoy the game more.)
- Call out the names of the kids in one group and read a scenario from the "Catch the Wave" Activity Page.
- If you run out of scenarios, create your own or simply repeat some "Catch the Wave" scenarios—repetition is a great teacher!
- Encourage the kids to either pantomime OR say how they could show kindness in that situation. If they're stuck, offer two alternatives and allow them to choose.
- When they answer, say, "Yes! God began a good work in you. Move forward [number and kind of steps]." (Examples: two giant steps, three jellyfish wiggles, one big hop)
- The game ends when every kid reaches you.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit together in a tight circle.
- Close your group time in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be Kind

The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, I know we often get busy and sometimes forget to focus on being kind. But, as I think of the awesome things You have done for me and these kids, I want us to remember to be kind to everyone we meet. Please help us remember that we can be kind to others because You are kind to us. Show us and teach us ways we can **show kindness to everyone** so we can change the world around us for You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Show kindness to everyone.

As adults arrive to pick up the kids, ask the kids to show the adults the craft they created and explain how they can manipulate the strip of paper to retell today's Bible story.

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