

WEEK
ONE
JULY 2022

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be Kind
The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you be kind even when it's hard?

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

HOST

- CUPS

STORRY SUPPLIES

- Bible
- Host
- Adult Volunteer (Preselected)
- Microphone (Prop for reporter, doesn't have to work)

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

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

- SUMMER IS HERE!!!!

- MAKE WAVES Ñ What you do today can change the world around you

- All month long, we will be talking about what it would look like if we could CHANGE the world around us
- To MAKE WAVES means that we are being intentional about what we do each day because it can have bigger effects than we could ever imagine

- BACKPACK DRIVE CELEBRATION VID

- Baptisms - CLASS JULY 10TH

Something important to us at MISSION is recognizing when people are growing in their faith and being transformed by the love of Jesus. One of the ways that we express that at MISSION is through Baptism. It is an outward expression of an inward change/commitment to following Jesus.

- Every month, we host a class that focuses on taking the next step in your faith. Baptism is a step people take when they want to tell others they are serious about following Jesus. If you want to attend this class July 10th and learn more, let your SGL know.

- MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

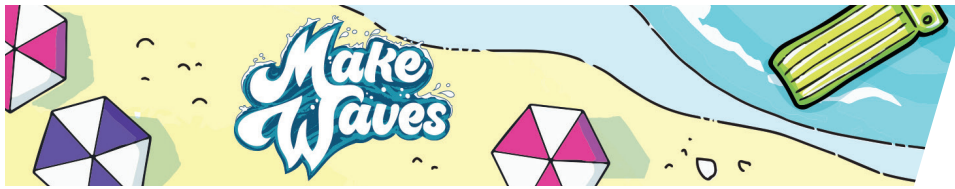
Week 1 - This is Living & Good Grace

Week 2 - Let Go & Graves Into Gardens

Week 3 - Never Gonna Stop Singing & Who You Say I Am

Week 4 - Real Love & Waymaker

Week 5 - The Best Is Yet to Come & Good Grace



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STORY

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GROUPS

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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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.

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 STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO: THIS IS LIVING

AUDIO: GOOD GRACE

Host enters holding an inflatable ring.

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

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

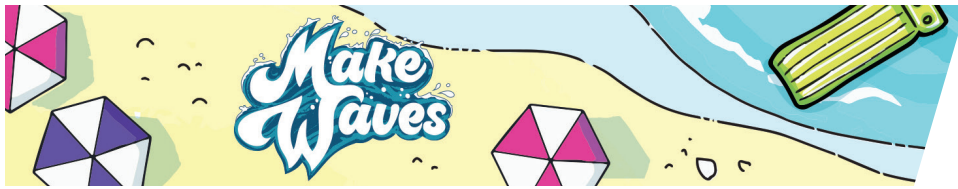
WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that is happening culturally or currently, the latest video game or movie launches, and so on. Host tells them how excited they are that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "Friends! Believe it or not, but we're in July! All of us here at [Name of Environment] love this season, and we hope you're all making the best of it!"

"Does anyone like swimming? Yep, I do too. Especially when it's really hot outside. It's kind of nice to throw down a pool float (*Throw the inflatable ring on the ground.*), settle in nice and comfy (*Sit down on the ring.*) and just float there for hours on end (*Lay back and put sunglasses on.*). Ah, this is the life.



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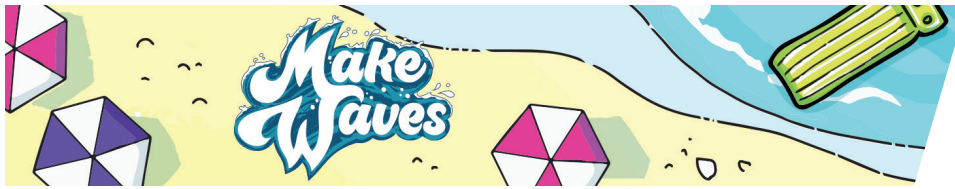
25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Pause, then sit up and look around.

"Ooh! I know! Let's make a game out of it. (Stand to your feet.) We'll need three Small Groups! Anyone up for playing a GAME?"

SLIDE: "HEAD SHOULDERS KNEES CUP"



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

As Communicator comes out, bring out the dry erase board and set it up towards center stage.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Welcome, everyone! Question for you: do you know anyone in your life who is just REALLY nice? Like, someone who is, at their core, just . . . super kind? Let’s be honest, looking around it can seem like kindness is in short supply. People are much more apt to point out someone’s faults than compliment someone. Thankfully, we come across the occasional stories featuring those Random Acts of Kindness.

“Take IKEA, for example. If you haven’t heard of it, IKEA a large store where you buy furniture in a million pieces and have to put it together with a small allen wrench and instructions that are just pictures with all the captions in a different language.

“Well, the IKEA in Catania, Italy did something super kind. In the winter of 2018, the store opened its doors to all of the stray dogs in the city to come sleep on their rugs and get warm. Not only that, but it inspired people who were shopping to bring food for the dogs to make sure they were fed. On top of that, many of the dogs ended up getting adopted by people in the community.

“And it’s not just kindness to cute, cuddly creatures, I recently heard another story about a mom named Ashlee Buratti. She threw a birthday party for her son, Glenn, who was turning 6. Glenn has some special needs. He invited all 16 classmates, but none of them showed up. She posted on Facebook about how heartbroken she was because Glenn kept asking when his friends would arrive.

“Well, immediately after posting, she was flooded with requests from other moms and kids in the neighborhood asking if they could come celebrate his party. In a little bit, 40 people came over to eat cake; they brought gifts, and even the local sheriff’s department got involved—they arranged for a helicopter fly-over over Glenn’s house. The local fire department came and let Glenn explore a fire truck, even letting him take a ride on a police motorbike.

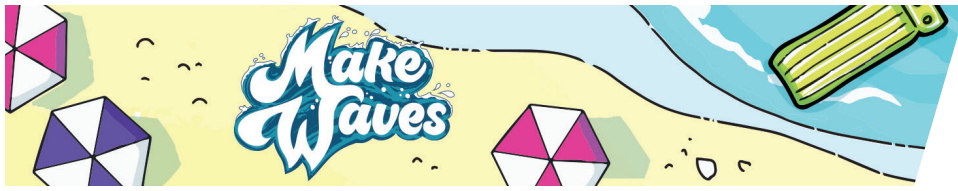
“Stories like these make me remember that people can be really kind! It’s not all bad news out there. OK, so what about you? Do you have any stories of random acts of kindness?”

If time allows, take a few responses.

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “These are great stories, right? But often times we show kindness to people we know, maybe only people we like. How can we show kindness, not just to those people . . . but to EVERYONE?”

“People can be funny and loving and enjoyable to be around. But they can be in bad moods, hard to get along with, or sometimes just downright mean. Everyone knows that kindness is a good thing, and honestly, being nice and kind to others seems like common sense . . . so why is it sometimes so hard to be kind? Can we LEARN to be kind? Even to the people who annoy us the most? These are great questions to think about, and thankfully the writers of the Bible have quite a bit to say about kindness.



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SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

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"We can find all sorts of wisdom in the Bible. It's the kind of wisdom that you can actually take and apply to your own lives. The Bible is full of ideas and truth that, even though it was thousands of years ago, can help us today. Let's take a look!"

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "We're diving into the book of Luke. It's one of the four Gospels, written by a guy named . . . you guessed it, Luke! Luke was one of the first followers of Jesus. He researched the life of Jesus and wrote down the stories so more people would get to know why Jesus came and how Jesus lived when He was on earth. Today we head to one of the most famous stories in the whole Bible. You might have heard of it, too—the story of The Good Samaritan. This is actually a parable that Jesus told. A parable is story that connects how God wants us to live to a real life situation. Check it out.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:25-28 (NirV) and read.

"One day, an authority on the law stood up to test Jesus.

"Okay, right off the bat, it's probably not the greatest idea, to try to trick Jesus into slipping up and saying something that would get Him in trouble, but that's what the religious leaders often did. You see, Jesus was usually surrounded by people when He came to a new town. Many wanted to see Jesus perform miracles or hear His amazing teaching. But the Jewish religious leaders didn't like this at all. They were threatened by Jesus, so they would try to prove that they already had all of the answers and that Jesus was wrong.

"We start today hearing about one of those moments.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:25-26 (NirV) and read.

"One day an authority on the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" Jesus replied. "How do you understand it?"

"Answering a question with a question. Brilliant. Not only that, Jesus reframed the argument. He took the spotlight off of Himself and spun it around on the person asking the question.

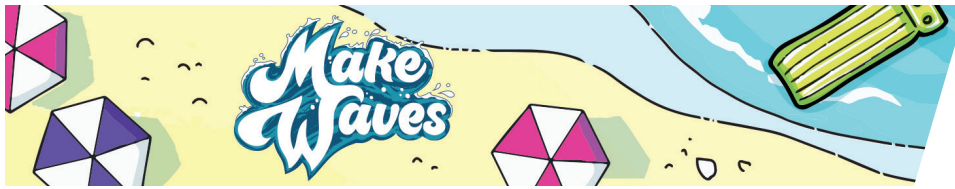
Open the Bible to Luke 10:27-28 (NirV) and read.

"[The man] answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and with all your mind." And, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

"The man was quoting Scripture from the Old Testament in Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. This guy knew his stuff.

"So, Jesus said,

Open the Bible to Luke 10:29 (NirV) and read.



WEEK
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PRETEEN

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SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

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"You have answered correctly. Do that, and you will live."

"Case closed, right? Boom. Done.

"But no. The religious leader kept pressing the issue. Seems like he was trying to make a point here. Especially because Luke wrote,

Open the Bible to Luke 10:29 (NirV) and read.

"But the man wanted to make himself look good. So he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

"OK, let's pause the story for a sec. Here's something we need to keep in mind. Jesus hung around with EVERYONE. Not just the famous people, not just the religious leaders, not just the 'really holy' people. In fact, Jesus made a point to hang out with the OPPOSITE type of people. Tax collectors and sinners. The sick and hurting. People who were on the fringes and didn't fit in. Seems like this religious leader was trying to corner Jesus into making a distinction about who was 'accepted' and who was not.

"Here's what Jesus did. Instead of defending Himself, or giving some long explanation, Jesus told a story.

"And to help me tell the story, please welcome [Name of Host] and [Name of Adult Volunteer]!

Welcome them to the stage and hand them their scripts. Then, open the Bible to Luke 10:30 (NirV) and read.

"Awesome. Let's get started.

"A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers attacked him. They stripped off his clothes and beat him. Then they went away, leaving him almost dead.

The Adult Volunteer falls down on the ground, and lays face down.

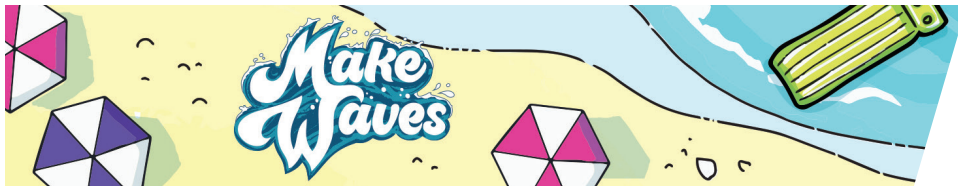
"Yep. There he goes. I also understand that we have a reporter on the scene, [Name of Host] can you tell us what's going on there? What can you tell us about this vicious attack?

Host is holding a microphone and a stick. The Host can affect a newscaster voice, measured and stilted, talking in a specific cadence.

HOST: "Yes, thank you [Name of Communicator], I am here at the site of the attack. While I seem to be arriving after the fact, the man on the ground does in fact appear to be in a bad state. I tried talking to him, but he only responded with grunts and groans, so unfortunately, I cannot discover any other details at this moment. I'll try again and see if I can get any information.

The Host speaks to the Adult Volunteer and tries to get them to answer questions. Volunteers just groans and flails a limp arm up and down, trying to get the Host to leave them alone.

"Unfortunately, as you can hear, it's the same result, this man is definitely in a bad state. Perhaps a bit later. Back to you, [Name of Communicator]."



WEEK
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PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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COMMUNICATOR: *“(to the Host) Okay, well, let’s hope that someone comes along to help. (to the Large Group) Jesus was telling this story to make a very specific point to the people listening.”*

HOST: *“[Name of Communicator]? Are you still there?”*

COMMUNICATOR: *“I’m here, what’s the latest?”*

HOST: *“Well, it seems as though we’ve had a development in the story. Now, the man on the ground has not moved yet . . . but someone has stopped by and taken in the whole scene. I’ve learned that the first person to stop and see what all of this was about was a Jewish priest, a man of the cloth, but when he took a good look at this man lying on the ground, he went to the other side of the street and kept walking.”*

COMMUNICATOR: *“Wait, he didn’t stop to help?”*

HOST: *“That is correct. I heard him muttering something as he was walking around the long way about how he was ‘hungry’ and needed to ‘get some dinner,’ but I couldn’t make out more than that. Back to you.”*

COMMUNICATOR: *“Wow. That’s pretty heartless, but that’s exactly what Jesus said happened in this story.*

Open the Bible to Luke 10:31 (NirV) and read.

“A priest happened to be going down that same road. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

A priest walked by! A priest was someone who you would think would undoubtedly stop and help this poor guy. He was someone who led the religious ceremonies at the synagogue or the temple . . . but he just kept walking. I wonder how the ‘authority on the law,’ the religious leader who had asked the question of Jesus in the first place, felt about this religious leader walking by.”

HOST: *“We have another breaking development! I’ve been able to piece together where this man was coming from and where he was headed—now, he was leaving from Jerusalem headed down to Jericho. I do not know what the purpose of this trip was, but I can say that this man is most likely Jewish.”*

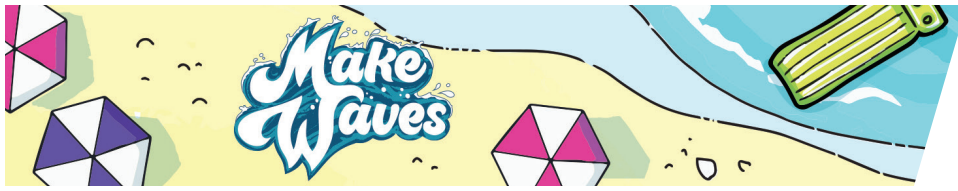
COMMUNICATOR: *“He was Jewish? But the priest was as well, correct?”*

HOST: *“That is correct, and to add to the growing list of people who simply do not want to help, there was another man who stopped by long enough to step over this poor man lying in the dirt. This man, who only identified himself as a Levite, wouldn’t look down at all, but seemed to stare off in a different direction, pretending to read something on his tablet. (with a knowing smirk) It seems this (pause) LEVITE (pause) decided to (pause) LEAVE HIM (pause) alone. Back to you.”*

Lights go down on Host and Adult Volunteer. While the Communicator is talking for this next part, the Adult Volunteer exits and the Host moves to the other side of the stage.

COMMUNICATOR: *“Wow. That’s not kind at all. But . . . that’s just how it happened in Jesus’ story. Take a look.*

Open the Bible to Luke 10:32 and read.



WEEK
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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

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“A Levite also came by. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side too.”

“Now, Levites were people who worked at the synagogue and temple—they were the musicians, the gatekeepers, the guardians, and the temple officials. In other words, this Levite was a Jewish religious worker and should’ve known better than to walk right by.”

HOST: “Another breaking development!”

COMMUNICATOR: “(startled) Good grief! You’re over there now?”

HOST: “This has definitely gone from a situation from a man who was down to a man taken downtown. A third person came by and, in every meaning of the phrase, the third one’s the charm. This man decided to help ‘he who was beaten’ (pause) and get him ‘something to eatin’.”

COMMUNICATOR: “That’s some pretty impressive rhyming.”

HOST: “Well, heh, I don’t do it all the time—ing. (pause) Sources close to the situation have identified the guardian angel as a Samaritan.”

COMMUNICATOR: “A Samaritan?”

HOST: “Yes, a Samaritan. This Samaritan saw this man, apparently felt sorry for him, and tended to his wounds.”

COMMUNICATOR: “But I thought the Jews hated the Samaritans—and vice versa.”

HOST: “They do. Can’t stand each other.”

COMMUNICATOR: “Let me explain something. The Jewish people looked at Samaritans as ‘less than.’ They shunned them whenever they could, in fact, the Jewish people would often travel around the region of Samaria to avoid contact with them!”

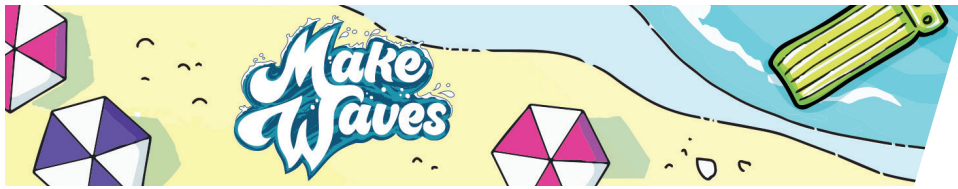
HOST: “All true. But this Samaritan didn’t care. He just saw someone who needed some help and decided to help him. (with a knowing smirk) It seems this (pause) Samaritan (pause) gave a helping HAND (pause) to a dirty beaten MAN. (pause) Back to you.”

COMMUNICATOR: “So this was the kicker in the story that Jesus was telling. Listen to how Jesus wrapped this up.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:33-35 (NIV) and read.

“But a Samaritan came to the place where the man was. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey. He brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins. He gave them to the owner of the inn. “Take care of him,” he said. “When I return, I will pay you back for any extra expense you may have.”

“Check this out—Jews and Samaritans were enemies. But in Jesus’ story, one enemy helped another and made things right because he had compassion and decided to show kindness. After Jesus finished up the story, He turned



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2022

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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back to the man who asked the question in the first place and said this:

Open the Bible to Luke 10:36 (NirV) and read.

'Which of the three do you think was a 'neighbor' to the man who was attacked by robbers?'

"Jesus' story did what His stories often did—they challenged people to rethink their positions and opinions. The teacher of the law was no different.

"The man had no reply except to admit that the Samaritan was the one who was a 'neighbor.' Then Jesus told him,

Open the Bible to Luke 10:37 (NirV) and read.

"Go and do as he did."

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "With this story, Jesus showed people a different way of thinking—a new way of living. Not only was Jesus helping people understand what it means to 'love your neighbor,' but Jesus also clarified who a 'neighbor' was in the first place. The Samaritan wasn't the person who people would have expected to show kindness, especially to a Jewish traveler.

"Let's think about this for a moment. You know, being kind doesn't just mean 'being nice.' You can be 'nice' to someone's face and totally not be kind to them, right? Being kind means going beyond yourself, reaching out to others and treating them in the same way that you would want to be treated. If you were beaten up by the side of the road, you'd want someone to stop and help! So, in being kind, be the sort of person who would stop.

"A kid at school sitting by themselves. Someone who is being bullied. Your brother or sister struggling to ride their bike. A parent who has worked all day and is now faced with a sink full of dishes. Look around you, and there are LOTS of ways to be kind, right in your own neighborhood. It's a great way to make waves and show people God's love.

"Show kindness not just to some people, not just to those who you like or that you know . . . but to everyone. EVERYONE. You can be the one to make the first move toward kindness, and in doing so, you're showing others that they are valuable."

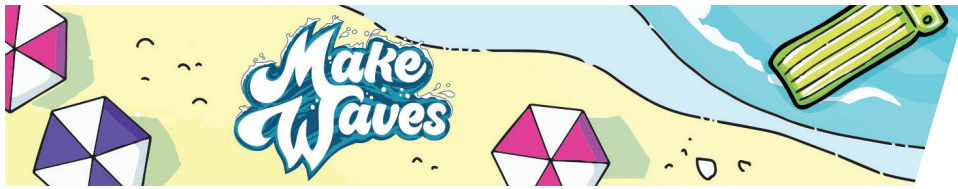
LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "As you head to your Small Groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

[Key Question] How can you be kind, even when it's hard? Think about the times when it's difficult to be kind. Times when the people around you aren't the nicest—times when the situation gets your blood boiling or when others really don't deserve it. How can you find ways to be kind, even in those situations? You'll talk more about this in Small Group, but before we head there, let's pray and ask God to help us choose kindness. Let's pray.

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.



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PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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