



# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**

FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the chance to help your group understand more about kindness. Ask God to help everyone remember we're all made in God's image and to show love to people who are different than us. Pray that kids would be looking for anyone who needs help or their kindness.*

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Don't Let Me Down**  
Good Samaritan  
Luke 10:25-37

## 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Ask kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Invite the kids to tell stories about a time they got hurt.
- Ask:
  - Have you ever broken a bone, gotten stitches, sprained an ankle, or had surgery?
  - Who took care of you?
  - How did you feel?
  - What made you feel better?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Be kind to people who are different from you.**

## 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, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

## BASIC TRUTH

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



# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**

FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



## \*2. INCLUDE EVERYONE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Circles" Activity Page, and pens

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "Circles" Activity Page and a pen.
- Invite the kids to think of a list of people they enjoy

spending time with: their friends, teachers, family members, coaches, or anyone they like.

- Instruct the kids to list those people in the center circle of the "Circles" Activity Page.
- When they are finished, direct the kids to draw a big heart around all of those people.
- Point out the middle circle labeled "The Samaritan" and the outside of the circle, labeled "The Hurt Man."
- Say: "The Samaritan and The Hurt Man were not in each other's groups—they weren't friends."
- Ask: "Without naming names, can you think of anyone who's 'outside' your circle?"
  - Some suggestions might include: students who sit by themselves at lunch or are not included by others at recess, new students they have not interacted with yet, strangers they encounter during outings or events, neighbors they haven't met, kids whose bodies or brains work differently than theirs, etc.
- Ask: "Would anyone like to share about a time you remember treating someone differently because they were outside your circle?"

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"In the story Jesus told, He wants us to be like the Samaritan. The Hurt Man was outside of the Samaritan's circle of people he would be expected to love and to help. The people you drew the heart around are people we are expected to love and help. They're our friends, family members, and people who know us. These are the people anyone would expect us to love.

"No one expected the Samaritan to help The Hurt Man. Jesus wants us to show kindness to people who think and act differently than we do—like the kid you dislike because he's constantly pushing others around and making kids do what he wants them to do, or the kid who you just have nothing in common with and haven't really ever played with. You don't need to be best friends with everybody, but you can show kindness to them. Why? Because every person you meet matters to God, and that is why we are supposed to **be kind to people who are different from you.**"

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Don't Let Me Down

Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be kind to people who are different from you.

## 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, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

## BASIC TRUTH

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



# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**

FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



## 3. IT'S PERSONAL

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, "Personalized Verse" Activity Page, pencils, and markers

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up Colossians 3:12 using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

***Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd 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 Colossians in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Colossians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Colossians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Colossians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 3. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 3 in chapter 12.*

- Read the verse together a few times.
- Give each kid a "Personalized Verse" Activity Page and pencils and markers.
- Invite the kids to follow your prompts as you tell them what to draw and color in each box.
  - Box # 1: Draw a stick figure of yourself.
  - Box # 2: Draw a stick figure of yourself surrounded by people who love you.
  - Box # 3 Draw a stick picture of yourself wearing shirt and pants. Label one of them "Mercy" and the other "Kindness." (Or "Compassion" and "Kindness" for the NIV.)
  - Box # 4: (NIRV) Draw a stick figure of yourself not being proud or boastful with others.
    - For example: Speech bubbles with positive and encouraging words, like "You're awesome!," "Great job!," or "You can do it!"—lifting others up instead of trying to make themselves look better. Or maybe drawing a scene where they are sharing something they love, like snacks or art supplies with their friends.
    - (NIV) Draw a picture of putting others first, or being gentle and patient with others.
    - For example: Letting someone go ahead of you in line, sharing, listening to someone who is upset, etc.
  - Box # 5: (NIRV Only) Draw a stick figure of yourself being gentle and patient with others.
    - For example: Playing or doing something with a younger sibling, waiting your turn in line, opening the door for an older person before walking in yourself, etc.
- When done, encourage the group to share what they drew in box # 4 and # 5.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Don't Let Me Down

Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Be kind to people who are different from you.**

## 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 VIRTUE

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

## BASIC TRUTH

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



# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**  
FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (3. IT'S PERSONAL, CONTINUED)

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job drawing your ideas! This is what I love about God's Word! It's like a special letter written just for you—it's personalized! That's why all your drawings are different!

"The author of this verse was writing to all the people who love God—that includes you! He was giving us a recipe to spread God's love and kindness to others. When you choose to be kind, gentle, and patient, you're choosing to be a good friend and treat others nicely even when things are hard. When things feel difficult or unfair, it's important to remember that God is with you, God's Spirit lives inside of you, giving you the strength to keep being kind. So, let's make it our mission to show God's kindness to everyone, no matter how different they may be from us. You can **be kind to people who are different from you** every day!"



# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**

FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



## 4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Tent or blanket

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Set up a tent or throw a blanket over a table to create a tent.
- Ask the kids to sit around or inside the tent.
- Briefly share what tents are used for following the discussion below.
- Close your group time in prayer.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Tents are like houses we can carry with us when we go on camping trips or outdoor adventures. They are special shelters that protect us from rain, wind, and bugs while we sleep under the stars. When we go camping with our friends or family, tents become cozy little spaces where we can all gather together. Just like a tent that gives shelter to everyone inside, we can also create a warm and welcoming space for everyone around us. When including everyone—including people who might be different than you—you make them feel valued and special. That is showing kindness. Let's pray."

"Dear God, thank You for this month's powerful reminder of Your incredible kindness. Today, we learned that we should be kind to everyone, even those who may seem different from us. Help us to be kind to those who may look different, have different interests, or come from different places. We want to follow Your example by remembering to **be kind to people who are different from us**. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them the "Personalized Verse" Activity Page and explain what they drew.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Don't Let Me Down**  
Good Samaritan  
Luke 10:25-37

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Be kind to people who are different from you.**

## 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, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

## BASIC TRUTH

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