

GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE
IN KINDNESS



WEEK
ONE

FEBRUARY 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Is there a difference between being nice and being kind?

Explain.

- Why do you think kindness is so important? How do you feel when someone is kind to you versus when someone is unkind to you?
- "Kindness is always cool." Explain why you agree or disagree with that statement.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Show Me the Way

The Kindness of Jesus
Matthew 8:1-4,
Matthew 19:13-15,
Matthew 9:10-13

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What does kindness look like?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus showed us how to be kind.

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."

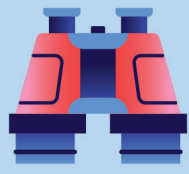
Colossians 3:12, NIV

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.



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MADE TO IMAGINE

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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles,

WHAT YOU DO:

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Show Me the Way

The Kindness of Jesus
Matthew 8:1-4,
Matthew 19:13-15,
Matthew 9:10-13

- Make sure each kid has a Bible. (Or invite the kids to use a Bible App on their phone.)
- Instruct the kids to look up Colossians 3:12 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Our verse is from Colossians. Ask kids to tell you whether that's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. (New) So we know it's toward the back of the Bible. When they find Colossians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 3. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to them find verses 12 in chapter 3.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What does kindness look like?

- Read Colossians 3:12 out loud several times.
- Divide the group into two teams.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus showed us how to be kind.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"You are God's chosen people.
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Be gentle and patient."**

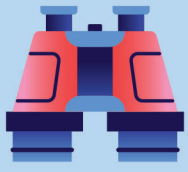
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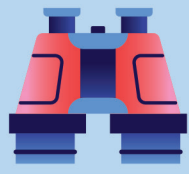
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(4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU, CONTINUED)

- Bring everyone together then discuss the verse by asking:
 - According to Colossians 3:12, what do the clothes of kindness look like?
 - What do you learn from Colossians 3:12 about the way we should treat others?
 - If you're gentle or patient with someone, how does that show they matter?
 - Why should a follower of Jesus show kindness to others?
 - Like a hiker gets ready for a trek on the trail by putting on special clothes, what can you do to put on kindness this week?



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal understanding
and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED:

WHAT YOU DO:

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Show Me the Way

The Kindness of Jesus
Matthew 8:1-4,
Matthew 19:13-15,
Matthew 9:10-13

- After the kids have had a few minutes to pray, close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for Your kindness toward us. Help us to follow Your example and treat others with patience and love. Remind us to be as mindful of the way we wear kindness as we are of the clothes we put on. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

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Colossians 3:12, NIV

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