

GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE
IN KINDNESS



WEEK
TWO

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:

- Describe the kind of relationship you want to have with your family. How might the kindness you show today impact that?
- BE KIND. If everyone in the world followed this one rule, how would it change the things that happen around us?
- What are things you can do to remember to show kindness to family and friends?
- When is it hard to be kind?
- When you're in a bad mood and everything is just annoying, what can you do to successfully be kind in that situation?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Family Ties
Ruth and Naomi
Ruth 1-2

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to be kind?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be kind to the people closest to you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

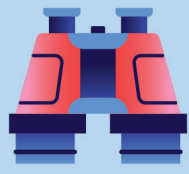
**"You are God's chosen people.
You are holy and dearly loved.
So put on tender mercy and
kindness as if they were your
clothes. Don't be proud.
Be gentle and patient."
Colossians 3:12, NIV**

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.



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MADE TO CREATE

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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, markers, paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible. (Or a Bible App on their phone.)
- Invite kids to look up and read Luke 6:31. Use the Bible Navigation Tips below as needed.

***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. (New) Since it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book of Luke. Once they find the book of Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find chapter 6. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse, verse 31, within the chapter they've already found.*

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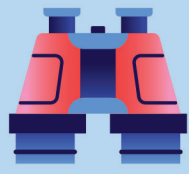
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- Many kids may be familiar with this verse already. Say: "The truth in this verse is sometimes known as the 'Golden Rule.'"
- Invite the kids to say the verse together from memory.
- Ask:
 - If your family made this their motto or rule, how would it change things at home?
 - When you think of the people you're with each day, what are some situations when you might need to remember this verse most often?
 - Without saying a name out loud, who is a person who is most difficult for you to show kindness to? Silently insert their name into the verse as we say it together. ("Do to _____ as you want _____ to do to you.")
- Ask: "Have you ever toasted marshmallows over a campfire? If so, tell me about it. And how do you like your marshmallow cooked?"
- Direct the kids to get into pairs.
- Invite kids to make some paper marshmallows.
- Give each pair of kids 12 squares of white paper and a pen.
- Direct each pair to write out Luke 6:31 by putting one word of the verse on each piece of paper including one piece for the reference.
- Instruct the kids to crumple each piece of paper into a ball about the size of a large marshmallow.
- Direct the pairs to exchange their paper marshmallows with another team.
- At your signal, challenge the pairs to begin unwrapping each paper wad and arranging the words of the verse in order.
- Instruct the team to shout out the verse when they have the papers in order.
- Direct the remaining teams to continue even after other teams have finished.
- Take note of which team was the first to finish. If the verse is in the correct order, they are the winner!



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an activity that creates space
for personal understanding
and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Bags of craft sticks from "Take a Snapshot" activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid their bag of craft sticks from the "Take a Snapshot" activity.
- Invite kids to hold their craft sticks one at a time and ask God for help with something specifically related to being kind to that close family member or friend when it's not easy for them to do so.
- If your group feels comfortable, divide your kids into groups of two or three.
- Invite each group to pray for one another.
- Once finished, close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for showing us how to love our family and friends with kindness in ways that please You. Teach us how to show others they are valuable through the words we use and the way we act toward them. Help us to choose to be kind to our families and friends by treating them the way we want to be treated. We love You. Amen."

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