

# GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE  
IN KINDNESS



WEEK  
**FOUR**

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:

- Why might showing kindness to someone feel awkward or make you uncomfortable?
- In what area of your life do you sometimes feel like you're different from others?
- What is one act of kindness you'd hope someone might show you? Describe how that would make you feel.
- How might understanding what it feels like to be treated unkindly, help you show kindness? How might it hold you back from being kind?
- Name some ways that kindness might bring people together.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Don't Let Me Down**

Good Samaritan  
Luke 10:25-37

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you care for people who are different from you?

## 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."

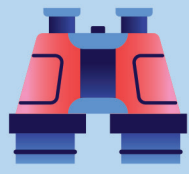
Colossians 3:12, NIV

## 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.



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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:** "Compass" Activity Page, yarn;  
*Optional: small compass keychains*

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each of the kids a set of three prepared cards from the "Compass" Activity Page containing each of the three previous week's "Verses to Take with You."
- Give each kid a length of yarn.
- Instruct the kids to loop the yarn through the holes in the cards then tie them off.
- *Optional: Give each kid a small compass keychain to attach the cards to instead of the yarn.*
- Ask kids if they know why a compass is important for hikers (*tool to keep them on track to avoid going in the wrong direction*).
- Read through each of the verses on the "Compass" Activity Page cards.
- Invite the kids to try to recite any verses from memory if they can.
- Ask:
  - In what ways are verses from the Bible like a compass?
  - What directions do you find in these verses that help keep you on track when it comes to kindness?
- Invite kids to share situations when Luke 6:31, Ephesians 4:32, or Colossians 3:12 would point them in the direction of a kind response.
  - If needed, prompt ideas by asking kids to finish the following sentence, "I need to remember this verse when . . ."
  - To encourage more specific scenarios, interject places kids go such as school, with friends, at home, in the car, etc. to help them think of times when showing kindness might be tough.
- Remind kids to take their "Compass" cards home to keep them pointed in the direction of kindness.

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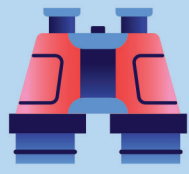
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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal understanding  
and application



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

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Pens, and "Compass" cards from Verse  
to Take with You Activity

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a pen.
- Make sure each kid has their set of "Compass" cards from the previous activity.
- Invite kids to pray for some of the situations they shared earlier as they discussed when Colossians 3:12, Luke 6:31, and Ephesians 4:32 would give helpful direction for responding in kindness.
- Using the "Compass" cards as a guide, encourage kids to write a short prayer on the back of one of their "Compass" cards to help them to remember to be kind.
  - For example:
  - God, help me to remember that kindness is a choice. Remind me as I get dressed each day to "put on" kindness and go above and beyond what I think I should do. (Colossians 3:12)
  - God, You are so kind to me. Help me show kindness and forgiveness to others the way You have shown it to me. (Ephesians 4:32)
  - God, help me to do and say the things I want others to do and say to me. (Luke 6:31)
- Allow kids a few minutes to pray.
- Encourage those who are willing to pray aloud.
- Close your group time in prayer.

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### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, we know that You never ask us to do something that is impossible for us to do, but sometimes being kind feels close to impossible. Help us to look beyond the differences and struggles we have with others and see each person as valuable and loved by You. Thank You for so many examples of kindness that You have shown us in Jesus. Give us what we need to treat others the way we want to be treated. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."