

City SG - February 10-11, 2018

Bible Story: We Are Family (Ruth and Boaz) • *Ruth 1–2*

Bottom Line: Be kind to your family and friends.

Memory Verse: “Do to others as you want them to do to you.” *Luke 6:31, NIV*

1. Kindness Awards

What You Need: “Kindness Awards” Activity Pages (one per kid), scissors & pens/markers (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a set of Kindness Awards and set out the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Instruct them to fill out the blanks on the awards.
- Do the first one together. Prompt your few by asking, “Who is someone who deserves a kindness award?” Allow one or two kids to answer. “Awesome! In the first blank, write something you really love about them!”
- Encourage them to fill out all of the blanks on the awards for whoever they would give them to and then decorate the awards however they choose.
- When you notice your few are finishing up, tell them they can cut out their awards and hand them out this week.

What You Say:

“Don’t you wish you could hand Ruth and Boaz a huge kindness award? Well, we can’t give one to them but there are people all around us who deserve an award for the great things they do. This week, I am challenging you to keep your eyes open for your friends and family who really do an awesome job at showing kindness. And remember, you may not get a cool paper award, but God loves when you can **[Bottom Line] be kind to your family and friends**, and that is an even better award!”

2. Balloon Names

What You Need: Balloon (one per group)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to scatter around your small group space.
- Explain that you will toss a balloon into the air and they will try to keep it from touching the ground.
- Every time they touch the balloon, they must say the name of a friend or family member they can be kind to.
- While kids hit the balloon, try to keep track of at least one name each kid says.
- Write them down if you need to.
- After kids hit the balloon around for a couple minutes, grab the balloon, and tell kids to take a seat.
- Talk about specific ways kids can be kind to some of the people they named. (If necessary, remind kids of some of the names they said.)
 - For example, they could be kind to their mom by getting out the door to school on time, with all of their things, and without complaining about anything.

- Or they could be kind to a friend by giving them a compliment or by inviting them over to play a new video game that friend has been wanting to try.
- ***[Make It Personal] (Do this activity along with the kids, telling them the name of a family member or friend that you can be kind to and how you will show that person kindness this week.)***

What You Say:

"You all did a great job of thinking of ways to ***[Bottom Line]*** be kind to your family and friends. There are so many ways we can show kindness to the people around us. We can do it many times a day every day. Raise your hand if you like it when other people are kind to you. *(Pause.)* Yes, me too! We all enjoy receiving kindness, so let's all decide to give kindness to others as often as we can."

3. Verse Hands

What You Need: "Verse Hands" Activity Pages (one per kid), scissors, markers, craft sticks (one per kid), tape

What You Do:

- Hand out Activity Pages and guide kids to cut out their "Verse Hand."
- Read the verse aloud together several times.
- Allow kids to use the markers to decorate their hand cutouts.
- Tape the craft sticks (or let kids tape them) to the hand, to make a handle.
- Guide kids to use their Verse Hands to shake each other's hands or pat each other on the back while saying something kind to the other person, such as: "I like your shirt" or "Thanks for being a good friend."
- Allow them to do this several times with various partners.

What You Say:

"Our verse says: *Do to others as you want them to do to you (Luke 6:31 NIV)*. I think this is a great way to think about kindness. Sometimes we might not know what to do in order to be kind, but we can just think of how we would want the other person to treat us in that situation. Take your Verse Hands home with you as a reminder to ***[Bottom Line]*** be kind to your family and friends and anyone else you might encounter each day."

Activities 4 & 5 on next page...

4. Character Creation

What You Need: “Characters” Activity Pages (one per kid), scissors, markers

What You Do:

- Hand out the Activity Pages and markers.
- Give kids a few minutes to color their characters while you talk about who the characters are.
- Guide kids to cut the characters’ cards apart.
- Retell the Bible story while kids use their characters to act it out.

There were two women named Ruth and Orpah. They married brothers, whose mother was Naomi. All of their husbands died, and Naomi wanted to go back to her homeland of Bethlehem. Ruth and Orpah said they would go with her. But after they traveled a little way, Orpah decided to go back home. Ruth continued on with Naomi. She told Naomi: “Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God.” They got to Bethlehem, but they had no food to eat. Ruth went to a field to pick up grain. The field was owned by Boaz, a relative of Naomi’s husband. He made sure Ruth got all the grain and water she wanted because she had been so kind to Naomi. Ruth continued to gather grain in Boaz’s fields until the end of the harvest. She asked him to take care of her. So, Boaz married Ruth. They had a baby boy named Obed. Ruth, Boaz, and Naomi were all overjoyed.

What You Say:

“Boaz was super kind to Ruth and Naomi, even though he didn’t have to be. He gave them food and then a home. There are people in your family that you can be kind to as well. You might have parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins. You also have lots of friends who also need your kindness. Last week we learned that we can be kind because God was first kind to us. And let’s say today’s Bottom Line together to remember some of the people we should be kind to.

[Bottom Line] Be kind to your family and friends.”

5. Pray and Dismiss (Hand out God Time Sheets)

What You Do:

- Encourage your small group to think about a family member or friend they may struggle showing kindness to.
- If you feel like they can share without being too gossipy, negative, or using names, let them share a few details.
- Offer some words of encouragement and then close in prayer, asking God to help us be kind to our family and friends.

What You Say:

“God, sometimes we find it hard to show kindness to our family and friends. Maybe someone’s brother is getting on his last nerve, or someone’s mom is making her turn off her game when she really wants to play. But I’m asking you to remind us of the kindness we learned about today even when it’s not always easy for us. I’m so thankful for the kindness You have given to us, and we want to show the world that kindness too. Remind us that we can be kind to our family and friends. In Jesus’ name, amen!”