

City LG—February 7th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Humble and Kind (God Was Kind to Us) • *Ephesians 4:32*

Today's Bottom Line: Be kind to others because God is kind 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 (NirV)

WORSHIP: "Undefeated" and "Give My All"

"Hi, everyone! I'm so excited to start a new month with you all here in The City! This month we're talking about kindness.

SLIDE: Kindness

"Kindness is showing others they are valuable by how you treat them.

"It's important for us to be kind to the people God has put in our lives. But that's not always easy, is it? Sometimes we don't FEEL like being kind. But it helps if we can remember where our kindness comes from in the first place. (*Hold up Bible.*) Let me show you what I mean."

CG: Newton's Cradle on LOOP Video

"It's tough to be kind when you don't get along with someone. When someone says or does something mean to you, what do you FEEL like doing? (*Pause for response.*) Right. When someone is mean to me, I'm tempted to be mean right back. But does that fix the problem? (*Pause for response.*) Nope!

"When we choose to do something UN-kind, that unkindness just keeps going back and forth. She says something mean . . . then I say something mean.

Address the Newton's Cradle Video and comment as the balls bounce back and forth.

"She does. I do.

"Her. Then me.

"Her. Then me.

"Back and forth.

"Back and forth.

"On and on and on!

"That's definitely not the solution.

Stop the video.

"So how can we know how to respond when someone does something UN-kind to us?"

(*Hold up Bible.*) "We can remember how GOD has shown kindness to us.

"A long, long time ago, there was a man named Paul who was a follower of Jesus. Listen to these words Paul wrote in a letter to the Ephesians. These were people who lived in a city named Ephesus.

Open the Bible to Ephesians 4:32 (NirV) and read.

“Be kind and tender to one another. Forgive one another, just as God forgave you because of what Christ has done.

“In other words, we should FORGIVE people who’ve been mean to us. Not because they deserve it. But because we remember what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross for our sins.

“Paul knew what he was talking about when he wrote this letter. (*Hold up Bible.*) He had made a lot of bad choices and mistakes in his life, but he knew that God had forgiven him. God will forgive US when we mess up, too. And he wants us to show that same kind of forgiveness to other people. That’s what our story is about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)

“It might not always be easy to show kindness to others. But it helps when we remember that our kindness comes from God in the first place. God showed us what true kindness is all about. We know that we’re valuable to Him, because He loved us enough to send Jesus to be our Savior.

“Let’s be willing to forgive and show kindness, because God has been so kind to us. Remember . . .

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Be kind to others because God is kind to you.

“Let’s talk to God and ask Him to help us do that.”

PRAY: “Dear God, thank You for being so kind to us! Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior and show us how we should live and treat other people. Please help us choose kindness, even when someone isn’t being kind to US. Help us forgive others instead of trying to get even. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Whew! It sure helps me remember to be kind to others when I remember how kind God has been to each of US! God showed His kindness by sending His only Son, Jesus. Because Jesus died on the cross and paid the price for our sins, we can be forgiven!

“So, remember how God has been kind to you. When you’re having a hard time getting along with someone, make the first move. Choose to forgive. Choose to be kind when you COULD be unkind.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Be kind to others because God is kind to you.

“Our memory verse for this month is Colossians 3:12. Check it out.

SLIDE: 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)

“Did you catch that? It says to put on kindness just like you put on clothes! This week, when you’re getting dressed in the morning—putting on your clothes—remember to put on kindness, too! We’ll get started with our All Together Activities soon, but first, watch this!”

CG: MC Haggis Video (Runtime: 3:30)

Dismiss kids to All Together Activities.