

# CITY All Together Activities—February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** Family Ties (Ruth and Boaz) • *Ruth*

**Today's Bottom Line:** Be kind to your family and friends.

**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)

## 1. Just for Fun

**What You Need:** No Supplies Needed

**What You Do:**

- Give the kids a series of challenges to rate from one to five—one as the easiest and five the hardest.
- Kids can attempt these challenges too, to see if their ratings are accurate.

Challenges:

- Say the alphabet in one breath
- Make a taco with your tongue
- Stand on one foot for 30 seconds
- Wink both of your eyes
- Pat your head and rub your tummy at the same time
- Wiggle your nose
- Spell your first and last name backwards in 20 seconds
- Say “Red leather, yellow leather” ten times fast
- Recite this month’s Life App and definition from memory
- Recite this month’s memory verse from memory

## 2. Opening Activity

**What You Need:** Hand Sanitizer, Paper (1 per kid), Pen and Set of Markers

**What You Do:**

- Give kids a pump of hand sanitizer
- Give kids a piece of paper, a Pen, and a set of markers.
- Encourage the kids to draw a self-portrait of themselves with their family members or friends.
- After they finish, let the kids show off their drawings, introducing the rest of the group to their family and friends.

**NOTE:** Some kids may come from foster homes or difficult family situations. That's why there is the option to draw their friends instead. If you are aware of a tricky family situation, be sensitive to that kid, particularly when it comes time to share.

**What You Say:**

“Your drawings are beautiful. I love learning all about your friends and family and those who are closest to you.”

## 3. Kindness Paper Chain

**What You Need:** Colored cardstock strips (3 per kid), pens, and a stapler (3 per Campus)

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid three paper strips and a pen.
- Encourage the kids to write down a way they could show kindness to a friend or family member this week—one example per strip.
- Let each kid read what they wrote.
- Use the tape or stapler to connect each paper strip to create a kindness paper chain.

### **What You Say:**

"You came up with some great ideas! This week, I want you to go out of your way to be kind to your family and friends. Think about Ruth and Boaz and how kind they were—even when it wasn't easy. When you find yourself getting annoyed or frustrated or impatient with your mom or sister or best friend, stop and think, 'How can I choose kindness right now?' Maybe that will lead you to do exactly what you wrote on your paper strip. Maybe choosing kindness will be something completely different that you haven't thought about, yet. But you can ask God to help you show your family and friends how valuable they are and to **[Bottom Line] be kind to your family and friends.**"

### **4. Fast Action Verse**

**What You Need:** Bible, paper ( 6 per service), and marker

#### **What You Do:**

- Look up Colossians 3:12 in the Bible and read it aloud to your group.
- Divide your group into three to six teams.
  - **NOTE: You can divide the teams/verse in any fashion that makes sense for your service**
- In large block letters, write one phrase from the verse per page.
- Verse phrases for NIrV:
  1. You are God's chosen people.
  2. You are holy and dearly loved.
  3. So put on tender mercy and kindness
  4. as if they were your clothes.
  5. Don't be proud.
  6. Be gentle and patient. Colossians 3:12
- Give each team a memory verse phrase page.
- Call out an action for the entire group to perform as each group says their phrase in verse order.
- Repeat the verse several times and choose a different action each time you repeat it.
- To keep interest high, after saying the verse two or three times, change the action in the middle of the verse.
- Some suggested actions are:
  - Clap
  - Snap
  - Jump in place
  - March
  - Jog in place
  - Jumping jacks
  - High knees
  - Squats

### **What You Say:**

"Whew, let's sit down! Raise your hand if you're tired after all of that. I'm tired from just watching you. I love our memory verse this month. Ruth and Boaz wore kindness like clothes all throughout today's Bible story. They were kind to their family—even when it was very hard."

"Think about your relationships with your siblings or friends or parents. Would they describe you as kind? If not, what could you do to change that this week? How can you put on kindness like your clothes and treat the people closest to you the way you would want to be treated? Remember, you don't have to do it alone. Ask God to help you **[Bottom Line] be kind to your family and friends** even when it's hard!"

## 5. Pray and Dismiss

**What You Need:** Index cards and pens

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid an index card and a pen.
- Encourage the kids to write down the name of a family member or friend who they want to do a better job of showing kindness to.
- Allow the kids to pray aloud if any choose.
- Close the group in prayer, asking God to help them **[Bottom Line]** be kind to your family and friends.

**What You Say:**

“God, thank You for Your never-ending, great big love for us. We know that no matter how many times we mess up, You ALWAYS choose to love and show kindness to us. This week, someone in our family WILL bug or frustrate us and we WILL be tempted to do something to bug or frustrate them right back. Help us to show Your kindness instead, even when it’s the last thing we want to do. We love You. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”