City LG—July 3rd, 2022

Today's Bible Story: Be Kind (The Good Samaritan) • Luke 10:25-37

Today's Bottom Line: Show kindness to others.

Monthly Memory Verse: God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on

until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns. Philippians 1:6 (NIrV)

WORSHIP: Unshakable and Standing in Your Light

"Hi, everyone! I'm glad to be here with you as we discover how we can make waves and change the world around us. One really important way we can do that is by showing kindness to others. Kindness can sometimes feel like it's something we have to search for. Kindness shouldn't be that way! We should easily find kindness happening all around us. How well can you search for things? Before we get started into our lesson today, and since it is Summer, we're going to play a game called "Summer Snacks Search". Let's play!"

GAME: Summer Snacks Search (On-Screen Game) CG: Summer Snacks Search Video (Runtime: 3:00)

Kids will be led on screen to try to find different icons of Summer Snacks within the time limit on the screen. (Example: Find the Watermelon in 10 Seconds). Have FUN and keep the energy high throughout the duration of the Video.

"Great job everyone! Today we are making waves by learning about the Fruit of the Spirit...Kindness. Kindness isn't always easy. Especially when we think someone is taking advantage of us, or treating us unfairly. But what if we don't know the whole story? That's what this fun little animated video is all about. Take a look!"

CG: Joy Story Video (Runtime: 3:00)

Wow! What a cool story. When we show kindness to others, no matter who they are, we are showing Jesus to them! Let's get into our Bible Story today. Jesus once told a story that shows us what true kindness looks like. And we can find it right here in the Bible. (Hold up Bible.) A law expert came to ask Jesus a tough question. And it wasn't that this man wanted to LEARN from Jesus. It was more like he wanted to prove that he already had all the answers. Let's listen to their conversation.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:25-29 (NIrV) and read.

"One day an authority on the law stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to receive eternal life?'

'What is written in the Law?' Jesus replied. 'How do you understand it?'

He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and with all your mind." (Deuteronomy 6:5) And, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." 'You have answered correctly,' Jesus replied. 'Do that, and you will live.'

But the man wanted to make himself look good. So he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?'

"Did you catch that? The law expert had answered Jesus' question by saying that we should love God and love our neighbors. But then the man had another question. He wanted to know if he could get away with being kind just to SOME people. That's why he asked, 'Who is my neighbor?'

"To answer his question, Jesus told a story. Let's take a look at this week's video to find out more!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)

"Listen to what happened after Jesus finished the story. Remember, Jesus was telling this story because the law expert had asked Him, 'Who is my neighbor?'

"When Jesus finished, He asked the law expert . . .

Open the Bible to Luke 10:36 (NIrV) and read.

"Which of the three do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by robbers?

"The law expert said it was the Samaritan, 'the one who felt sorry for him.' (Luke 10:37, NIrV)

"Jesus then told the law expert, 'Go and do as he did.' (Luke 10:38, NIrV). In other words, we should show kindness and love to EVERYONE.

"You see, by telling this story, Jesus made it clear: your neighbor isn't just someone who lives near you or is LIKE you. Your neighbor is anyone who needs your help and kindness. Let's learn our Bottom Line for this week!"

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "Show kindness to others.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us make waves of kindness!"

PRAY: "Dear God, thank You so much for the example of the Samaritan in the story Jesus told. It seemed like everyone else was too busy to help . . . but the Samaritan showed kindness to someone he didn't even know. Please help us get in the habit of showing that type of kindness. Through Your Holy Spirit, help us see how we can be kind not just to people who are like us, but to EVERYONE around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"It's easy to be kind to people who are just like us or people who agree with us. But when Jesus told the story of the good Samaritan, He gave us a much bigger challenge. He used the example of a Samaritan, who was willing to show kindness to someone who SHOULD have been his enemy.

"That's why kindness is so powerful! It means loving your neighbor. It means being willing to help, even when it's hard. It means treating others like they matter—not some people, but everyone. If we can do THAT, then we'll really make waves! Here's what we can work to do, together.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "Show kindness to others.

"When you put your faith in Jesus, you have God's Spirit to help you. That will give you the strength you need to be kind, even when you might not want to.

"I know that when I think about showing kindness, I tend to think of just 'being nice.' But kindness is so much more than that! It means reaching out and **treating others the way you want to be treated**— even people who may be different from you. It could mean that you make the first move to show kindness, instead of waiting for someone to ASK you for help.

"I love our memory verse for this month, Philippians 1:6. The apostle Paul wrote these words to the people in Philippi. Let's read this together."

SLIDE: Memory Verse

KIDS: "God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns." (Philippians 1:6, NIrV)

"Isn't that so cool? God is working in each of us, through the Holy Spirit. And God's Spirit helps us each day to make waves."

OFFERING:

As you may know, all this Summer we are raising money to dig water wells in the Country of Malawi. Over Summer Jam this week, you learned more about why clean water is so valuable and important. I heard you all did an amazing job raising money at Summer Jam! Each week this Summer, when you bring your offering in, not only are you showing Kindness, but you are also helping many people in Malawi to have clean water to drink and cook with. So, if you brought an offering today, you can bring it up now, while this month's Music Video plays!

CG: Music Video (Runtime: 3:00)