

CITY LG – February 24 - 25, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Don't Let Me Down (Good Samaritan) • *Luke 10:25-37*

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 (NIRV)

LG SUPPLIES: 4 posters labeled 1-4 and wall tape

WORSHIP

Let it Be Known
Every Beat

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Group

SLIDE: Theme

Hey, hey, hey, everyone! If you're feeling good today, give me a thumbs-up! You know, all month long we've been 'gearing up' for an adventure in kindness.

SLIDE: Virtue

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

SLIDE: Theme

I know I feel good when someone shows kindness to me! So being kind is a great way to treat others the way we want to be treated. With God's help, we can 'gear up' and be ready to show kindness to the people God puts in our lives, each and every day.

We've been 'gearing up' with some fun outdoorsy games this month, and I've got another fun one for you today. This game is called . . . 'Whose Tracks?'

SLIDE: "Whose Tracks?"

Sometimes when you're out in nature, you see animal tracks on the ground. We'll put some different animal tracks on the screen, and you'll try to guess which animal made those tracks. You'll have four possible answers to choose from . . . and the four corners of the room will match your choices that are on the screen—one, two, three, and four.

Point to the numbered poster signs in the corners of the room.

So you'll need to look at the screen and find which number you think has the correct animal, and then go to that corner of the room. Are you ready? *(Pause for response.)* Let's do it!

SLIDE: Game Slide 1a

Okay—your choices are:

- 1) Cat,
- 2) Dog,
- 3) Bird, or
- 4) Snake

Head to the corner that you think has the right answer!

Comment on the action as the kids choose their answer and go to the corresponding corner. You might need to help the younger kids at first.

If you're in corner number one, you thought it was a cat that made those tracks—and you're right!

SLIDE: Game Slide 1b

There's no need to make this an elimination game. Continue through the rest of the slides, explaining the answers verbally each time, then revealing the correct answer once the kids have all made their choice.

SLIDE: Game Slides 2a, 2b (follow Host's lead)

SLIDE: Game Slides 3a, 3b

SLIDE: Game Slides 4a, 4b

SLIDE: Game Slides 5a, 5b

SLIDE: Game Slides 6a, 6b

SLIDE: Game Slides 7a, 7b

SLIDE: Theme

That last one was really tough . . . but you all did great!

I have an amazing story of kindness for you today that's actually a story Jesus told—and we can find it right here in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

“Jesus often told stories that helped people understand something important about God, or about the way we should live our lives as we follow God. These stories are also called parables. Let's check it out...

VIDEO: Bible Story (12:36)

In the story Jesus told about the Samaritan and the hurt Jewish man, there was something pretty amazing that happened. The Samaritan showed kindness to the hurt man . . . even though there was nothing the man could do for him. These two men were very different from each other. But the Samaritan chose to be kind anyway.

You see, Jesus told this story to help people understand that everyone is important and valuable. Everyone is made in the image of God! So, we should be kind to people who are different from us.

Stand up and check out our bottom line.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Be kind to people who are different from you.

What could that look like in your world? Maybe you know a kid who tends to get left out at recess or at lunch. You could offer to play a game with them or sit with them in the lunchroom.

You could let someone else choose the pizza toppings or the ice cream flavor, even if it's not what you would choose.

You could listen to someone else's idea, even if you don't agree with them.

Those are some great ways that you can show God's love and kindness to people you've never met before. And who knows? You might even end up making a new friend and learning something new too!

Let's pray and ask God to help us do that.

SLIDE: Theme Background

Dear God, thank You for this story that Jesus told, and thank You for what it shows us about kindness. We want to be kind to everyone—not just people who are like us. Help us to treat people who are different from us in a way that shows love, honor, and respect. Give us the wisdom to be able to show others that they're valuable and important, because we know that everyone we meet is our neighbor! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

What mission are we supporting this year? Yes, Morning Star Mission! Morning Star helps people who are financially struggling support their families. I know we just celebrated Christmas in December but take a look at this video about one of Missions of Hope's programs called Stars of Hope. If you have your offering, bring it up as we watch this...

VIDEO: Stars of Hope

So Merry Christmas...WAY early. But Missions of Hope prepares all year to have gifts for kids in families that need help. When we think of all the blessings we have every day, let's try to come up with ways to raise money for kids in need in our area!