

CITY LG – February 3 - 4, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Show Me the Way (The Kindness of Jesus) • *Matthew 8:1-4, Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 9:10-13*

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus showed us how to be kind.

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

Let it Be Known
Every Beat

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

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, everybody! I'm so glad you're here! If you're ready to 'gear up' for an adventure with us, then pump your fist in the air and give me a big, 'Let's goooo!' Ready? One . . . two . . . three!

Let's goooo!

Excellent! This month, we're finding out what it means to show kindness.

SLIDE: Virtue

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

SLIDE: Theme

I know it feels so good when someone is kind to me! It's important that we 'gear up' and learn how to be kind, so that we're always ready to treat others the way we want to be treated. We know that God is always there to help us—and we can see exactly what kindness looks like when we see how Jesus treated people.

Now, I've got a question for you. How many of you have ever gone camping? Raise your hand. *(Pause for response.)* And how many of you have ever gone on a hike? *(Pause for response.)* That's great! If you've spent time outside, you probably know that you have to 'gear up' with some special gear—like a tent, a camp stove, and those cool sticks to roast your marshmallows. I just love spending time in the great outdoors, don't you?

Let's play a game in our small groups. We've got some pictures that we'll put on the screen of some things you might see when you're out in nature. But the pictures won't show up all at once. Instead, it'll be like a puzzle with one piece added at a time. Huddle with your group and when your group thinks you know what the picture is, shout it out!

Okay, let's go!

SLIDES: Game Images 1a-j (pine cone)

Advance the slides, one at a time, so that the image gradually appears. Listen for the correct answer. When someone guesses the answer, celebrate and show the completed image on the screen before you move on to the next one.

SLIDES: Game Images 2a-j (bird)

SLIDES: Game Images 3a-j (snake)

SLIDES: Game Images 4a-j (tent)

SLIDES: Game Images 5a-j (waterfall)

SLIDE: Theme

That was so fun! You did a great job of guessing those pictures. I can't believe we got them all! Give a friend a high-five and get on your feet.

This month we're talking about kindness. Did you know that kindness is important to God? We know that kindness is important to God because we see it throughout God's story. *(Hold up Bible.)*

Of course, Jesus gave us the very best example of kindness. He showed us what it means to love God and love others with the way He lived His life, and the way He treated people. Today, we'll take a look at three different times when Jesus showed kindness. Let's check out the Story Lab...

VIDEO: Bible Story

SLIDE: Theme Background

I love hearing about the way Jesus treated people! When Jesus showed kindness to people who were ignored and overlooked, He showed everyone what God is like. He made everyone feel valuable and important. He showed what it looks like to treat others the way you want to be treated. Take a look at our bottom line...

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Jesus showed us how to be kind.

Of course, the greatest act of kindness that Jesus did for us when He was here on earth was when He died on the cross for us. He paid the price for our sins so we could be forgiven.

Now we can follow Jesus' example by being kind to others. We should be on the lookout for people who are going through a tough time—people who might NEED some kindness. When you treat them with kindness, you're not just making their day better. You're sharing God's love with them too!

Our Memory Verse for this month is something that Paul wrote to the Colossian church, which we can find in Colossians 3:12. Listen to this.

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. (NlrV)

Isn't that cool? We can 'put on' kindness like we're putting on clothes! We can 'gear up' and be ready to show love to others. Now let's read the verse together.

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. (NlrV)

Awesome job! In just a minute we will talk more in Small Groups about how **Jesus showed us how to be kind**. Let's pray and ask God to help us live like Jesus.

Dear God, thank You for the way You love us. Thank You for sending Jesus FOR us. Thank You for the way **Jesus showed us how to be kind**. Please help us to follow His example and to see the people around us who need love and kindness. Show us how we can share Your love with everyone around us. 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 struggling financially. They help them with necessities AND they help them with whatever it is they need to get in a better place and support their families. All kids need supplies to help them succeed in school. The program Morning Star has to help kids get supplies is called *Jump on the Bus*. If you have your offering, bring it up as we watch this video...

VIDEO: Jump on the Bus

So, let's help the kids be ready to jump on the bus this year! Missions of Hope prepares all year to be able to help underprivileged kids start their school year off right. So when you are at home this week, look at all of your blessings, and think of what you can do to raise some money for kids in need in our area!