

CITY SG – 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)

1. Who Is My Neighbor?

Bible Story Review

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Direct the kids to sit pretzel-style (or criss-cross applesauce☺) on the ground.
- Challenge the kids to get into a standing position without using their hands and arms or letting their knees touch the ground. (This is almost impossible to do.)
- After a few minutes of trying, invite kids to pair up.
- Instruct the kids to sit back-to-back.
- Invite the pairs to work together to get into a standing position using the same guidelines.
- Ask:
 - Was this task easier alone or when someone was helping you?
 - In our story today, who walked past the man in need and did not stop to help? (*the priest and the Levite*)
 - Who stopped to help? (*the Samaritan*)
 - How do you think the hurt man felt as the priest and Levite walked by? (*Pause for responses.*)
 - Who do you think people would have expected to stop: expected that the priest and Levite OR the Samaritan? (*the priest and Levite*)
 - Why would they expect the priest or the Levite to stop? (Samaritans and Jewish people didn't like each other, so they usually avoided each other.)
 - What did the Samaritan do for the man? (*He bandaged the man and put him on his donkey. He took the man to an inn and offered to pay for him, and to come back and pay for any extra expense*)
- Say, "Jesus told this story to make the point that if we love God, we will love our neighbor. Your neighbor isn't just your friend or someone who is like you. Your neighbor is anyone who needs your help and kindness. When we're kind to our neighbor, we're being kind to someone who matters to God. That is why God wants us to **be kind to people who are different from you.**"

2. Include Everyone

Application Activity

What You Need: "Circles" Activity Page (one per kid), and pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Circles" Activity Page and a pen.
- Invite the kids to think of a list of people they enjoy spending time with: their friends, teachers, family members, coaches, or anyone they like.
 - Encourage the younger kids who cannot write to draw those people
- Instruct the kids to list those people in the center circle of the "Circles" Activity Page.
- When they are finished, direct the kids to draw a big heart around all of those people.

- Point out the middle circle labeled “The Samaritan” and the outside of the circle, labeled “The Hurt Man.”
- Say: “The Samaritan and The Hurt Man were not in each other’s groups—they weren’t friends.”
- Ask: “Without naming names, can you think of anyone who’s ‘outside’ your circle?”
 - Some suggestions might include: students who sit by themselves at lunch or are not included by others at recess, new students they have not interacted with yet, strangers they encounter during outings or events, neighbors they haven’t met, kids whose bodies or brains work differently than theirs, etc.
- Ask: “Would anyone like to share about a time you remember treating someone differently because they were outside your circle?”

3. It’s Personal

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, “Personalized Verse” Activity Page (one per kid), pens, and markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Personalized Verse” Activity Page and pens and markers.
- Read the verse on the left side of the page together a few times.
- Invite the kids to follow your prompts as you tell them what to draw and color in each box.
 - Box # 1: Draw a stick figure of yourself.
 - Box # 2: Draw a stick figure of yourself surrounded by people who love you.
 - Box # 3 Draw a stick picture of yourself wearing shirt and pants. Label one of them “Mercy” and the other “Kindness.”
 - Box # 4: Draw a stick figure of yourself not being proud or boastful with others.
 - *For example: Speech bubbles with positive and encouraging words, like “You’re awesome!,” “Great job!,” or “You can do it!”—lifting others up instead of trying to make themselves look better. Or maybe drawing a scene where they are sharing something they love, like snacks or art supplies with their friends.*
Draw a picture of putting others first, or being gentle and patient with others.
 - *For example: Letting someone go ahead of you in line, sharing, listening to someone who is upset, etc.*
 - *For example: Playing or doing something with a younger sibling, waiting your turn in line, opening the door for an older person before walking in yourself, etc.*
- When done, encourage the group to share what they drew in box # 4 and # 5.

4. Pray

- “Dear God, thank You for this month’s powerful reminder of Your incredible kindness. Today, we learned that we should be kind to everyone, even those who may seem different from us. Help us to be kind to those who may look different, have different interests, or come from different places. We want to follow Your example by remembering to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from us.** We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them the “Personalized Verse” Activity Page and explain what they drew.