CITY SG – February 10 - 11, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Family Ties (Ruth and Naomi) • *Ruth 1–2* **Today's Bottom Line:** Be kind to the people closest to 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. Kind-Hoot

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Multiple Choice" Activity Page (1per bin), index cards (lots), markers What You Do:

- Direct the kids to pair up.
- Give each pair three index cards and a marker.
- Instruct each team to write "A" on one card, "B" on the next, and "C" on the last one.
- One at a time, read a question from the "Multiple Choice" Activity Page, providing kids with three choices for answers.
- With the help of their partner, instruct the team to decide on the correct answer (either A, B, or C).
- Direct each team to hold up the index card with the correct answer, making sure their answer is hidden from other teams.
- Encourage each team to keep track of their own points and share how many questions they got correct at the end of the game.
- Ask:
 - Was it always easy for Ruth and Boaz to show kindness? (No.)
 - What made it hard for Ruth in the beginning? (Invite responses, like: She had to go to a new town.)
- Say: "By choosing to stay with Naomi, Ruth showed Naomi that she still mattered. Ruth worked hard, gathered grain, and took care of Naomi. Because Ruth showed kindness to Naomi, Ruth also ended up getting to be part of the family line of Jesus."

2. Kindness in Action

Application Activity

*Non-Reader Option

What You Need: "Thank You Cards" Activity Page (1 sheet per kid), scissors, pens, and markers What You Do:

- Invite the kids to think about people in their lives who have been kind to them who they may struggle showing kindness to or forget to acknowledge their kindness.
 - o Some suggestions might include Mom, Dad, sibling, grandparent, etc.
- Ask: "What are some ways these people have shown kindness toward you?"
- Instruct each kid to pick four people they would like to thank for being kind to them.
- Hand each kid a sheet and have them cut out the four cards.
- Set out the pens and markers.
- At the top of each card, ask the kids to write the name of the family member or friend they want to thank.
- Instruct the kids to complete the sentence on each card by expressing why they are thankful or how that person has been kind to them.
 - For example, "Dear Mom, thank you for always being there for me and helping me with my homework."
- If time permits, encourage the kids to color and decorate their cards however they choose to.
 - o If a child cannot write, write the name on top for them, and have the child draw how their friend or family member has been kind to them.

3. Memory Verse Roll

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: a soft ball (one per group)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - "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)
- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.
- Invite a volunteer to recite the monthly memory verse, then say it a few times together.
- Give one kid the ball.
- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass to ball to the person next to them. Play a few times, getting faster each time.
- Try it again, but instead of passing the ball, roll the ball to someone across the circle saying one word of the verse at a time.
- Play as time allows, encouraging kids to say the verse faster each round.

4. Pray

"Dear God, thank You for the kindness You have shown us. We want to show the people closest to us that same kindness even when they get on our nerves or make us upset. We want to be a light and show kindness to those closest to us and brighten up their day and show them they matter. Help us to have the patience and strength to [Bottom Line] be kind to the people closest to us even when it's not easy. 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 their thank you cards and explain why they created them.