



FEBRUARY THEME

REWIND

Kindness Deserves a Replay

BIBLE STORY

Matthew 25:35-40

All the Small Things | The Least of These

BOTTOM LINE

Be kind to people who are overlooked

MEMORY VERSE

“Do to others as you want them to do to you.”

Luke 6:31, NIV

LIFE APP

Kindness | Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **KINDNESS** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story.

Key Question: Have you ever received unexpected kindness? Often the best kindness is the kindness that feels completely random. Help families discover how they feel when someone surprises them with kindness. Help them figure out the unexpected ways they can show kindness to people in their life.

In **Matthew 25:35-40**, we’ll revisit one of Jesus’ teachings on kindness. For one reason or another, people are overlooked every day—no one even notices them, much less shows kindness to them. But Jesus says that when we show kindness to one of the least of these, it’s as if we’re showing kindness to him. We hope to discover how we can show kindness to people who are overlooked in their world.

Bottom Line: Be kind to people who are overlooked. Everyone deserves to be treated like they’re valuable, no matter who they are. We hope families start to see people who have needs and work together to show kindness and meet those needs.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for eternal kindness. Ask God to forgive you and to forgive your few for the times you’ve overlooked someone and, as a result, were unkind to them. Pray that kids would seek out those who are typically overlooked and purposefully seek to be kind.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

Made to Connect | *An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

What You Need: Dice

What You Do:

- Give one group member the dice.
- Call out a number (*between one and six*) and instruct the kid with the dice to roll it.
- Pass the dice around the group until someone rolls the number you called.
- For whatever number was called out, work together to try to come up with the same amount of ways we can be kind to a family member this week.
- If there is still time left, do it again, this time listing ways we can be kind to a friend.

•• **OVERLOOKED ITEMS**



Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Items” cards, paper, pen

What You Do:

- Set out the “Items” cards on your table. Tell kids to look at them closely because in a minute you will take the cards away, and they will need to try to remember what was on them.
- Give kids 30-60 seconds to look. Then take the cards away.
- Ask kids to call out the items they can remember. Write them down on the paper.
- Set the cards back out, and ask kids to see if there was anything they overlooked.

What You Say: “There were so many items on the cards, it was easy to overlook some of them. It’s also sometimes easy to overlook people, because there are just so many people in this world. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we’ll hear/we heard about how we should treat people who are overlooked.”**

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Children’s Ministry Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

- **GIVE IT AWAY** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Imagine | An activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: “Cup” cards, “Food” cards, “Clothing” cards

What You Do:

- Mix up and set out the “Cup,” “Food,” and “Clothing” cards face down in a grid on your table.
- Invite the child to your right to turn one card over and show it to the whole group. Put the card back in its spot, facing up.
- Invite the next child to turn over a different card and show it to the whole group. If the cards match, place them to the side. If they don’t match, flip them face down and repeat with two different children.
- Continue until all matches have been found.

What You Say: “Wow! What a fun way to remember today’s Bible story and that when we help others, it’s just like helping Jesus. When we do kind things for others, it’s like we’re doing them for God. We can be kind to the people we know and love, but God also wants us to keep an eye out for people who are overlooked and do kind things for them too. **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a way you recently showed kindness to someone who was overlooked.) [Bottom Line] Be kind to people who are overlooked.”**

- **KINDNESS CHALLENGE** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Challenge” cards, “Parent Notes,” crayons, baggies

What You Do:

- Give each kid a set of “Challenge” cards, a baggie and crayons.



- While kids color the pictures, invite them to look at each card. Read each card and talk about what it means.
- Help kids to put their cards and a “Parent Note” into their baggies to take home.

What You Say: “I want you to take these home with you. My challenge to you and your family is to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are overlooked** in each of these ways before the month is over. There’s a note in there for your parents. Have them read it and then work together to come up with some ideas of how you can **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are overlooked.**”

•• **NO HANDS** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Memory Verse Words” activity cards

What You Do:

- Scatter the “Memory Verse Words” on your small group table.
- Instruct the kids to work together to put the verse in order, but they can’t use their hands.
- Remind kids to live out the verse as they work together and to be kind to one another.
- When the verse is in order, say it together several times.

What You Say: “You did such a great job doing to others as you would want them to do to you while doing this activity. I’m very proud of you for showing kindness to your friends. Today, who are we learning we should be kind to? *(Pause.)* Yes, to people who are overlooked. **[Bottom Line] Be kind to people who are overlooked.**”

PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Kids’ baggies from “Kindness Challenge”

What You Do:

- Hand out kids’ baggies of “Challenge” cards. Remind them what each card is for.
- Tell kids to pray silently, asking God to give them opportunities to do each of the four things this month.
- Close with the prayer below...

What You Say: “Dear God, you are so amazing for being kind to everyone—even those who are overlooked. Help us to remember that when we’re kind to others, it’s like we’re being kind to you. Help us to do all of the things on our “Challenge” cards this month. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, hand out **Parent Cue** cards as adults arrive to pick up. Tell adults to ask kids about their “Challenge” cards and what they’re supposed to do. Tell adults that there is a note in the baggie to help explain the challenge.

