



**FEBRUARY THEME**



**BIBLE STORY**

**Luke 10:25-37**

Hey Brother | Good Samaritan  
**Spark Story Bible, pg. 360-365**  
The Good Samaritan

**BOTTOM LINE**

Be kind to people who are  
different from you

**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)

**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

**●● THEME OVERVIEW**

**Key Question:** How can you be kind to people who are different from you? There are times when we face people who we feel don’t deserve our kindness. Most likely, we could list out the people who we don’t get along with or people who are different from us. We may even be able to make excuses as to why those people don’t deserve our kindness. But Jesus tells us to love our enemies and show kindness to everyone. Through this question, we hope to discover how we can show kindness to all sorts of people we meet.

We finish the month with a familiar parable found in **Luke 10:25-37**. When the religious leaders tried to make themselves look good, they try and trick Jesus with a question. If we’re supposed to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, who exactly is our neighbor? Jesus answers with the parable of The Good Samaritan. Jesus used this story to completely change how people who follow him should look at showing kindness to others—it’s not just for people we know or like, but for everyone we meet.

**Bottom Line:** Be kind to people who are different from you. Everyone is deserving of our kindness, whether they look like us or not. God’s love is for everyone. Jesus modeled a love and kindness that included everyone. We are called to do the same.

**●● WOW @home**

**What You Do:** Watch this week’s WOW @home in the comfort of your family’s @home prayer + worship spot. The video can be found on [popmn.org/youtube](http://popmn.org/youtube) or [facebook.com/popchildrens](https://facebook.com/popchildrens). Then use this Family Guide, GodTime & ParentCue cards, and FAITH5 daily devos as personal devotionals and to keep the conversation going...

**●● ACT IT OUT** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

**What You Need:** Bible or Spark Story Bible

**What You Do:**

- Quickly assign parts from today’s story to your family: robbers, the hurt man, the priest, the Levite, the Samaritan, the donkey, and the innkeeper. If needed, people can play more than one part.
- Encourage your family to act out the story as you read it from Luke 10:30-37 or pages 360-365 in the Spark Story Bible.
- Then, work together to think about how you could retell this story in 2021. Think about these questions:
  - Who would the characters be if this story took place today?
  - What might happen if this same kind of event took place at school or in

your neighborhood today?

- Once you come up with a modern-day version of the story, assign parts and act it out.

**What You Say:** “Jesus often told stories that his listeners could relate to in order to help his audience understand his teaching. In this story, Jesus’ audience would have instantly understood what it meant for a Samaritan man to stop and help a hurt Jewish man. Because at that time, Jews and Samaritans did NOT get along. Jesus wanted his listeners to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you.**”

“I LOVED our 2021 version of this story! Even today, there are people who we don’t show kindness to when we should. Jesus tells us to love our neighbor. That’s not just our next-door neighbors, the kids who sit next to us in class or the families on our sports teams. Our neighbor includes anyone and everyone we come in contact with each day. When it comes to kindness, remember to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you.**” Sometimes, it can be hard to be kind to people who are different than us. But when we remember that God made and loves ALL people, it’s a little easier for us to be like the Samaritan and be kind to people who are different than us.”

**[Make it Personal]** *(Share a time when someone very different from you showed kindness in an unexpected way. Maybe someone stopped to help you change your tire on the side of the road. Maybe someone in front of you in the drive-through line paid for your meal. Talk about how it felt to be on the receiving end of that kindness and how it challenged you to be kind, too.)*

#### •• KINDNESS CHAIN [Live for God | Application Activity]

**Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding**

**What You Need:** Strips of paper (*four per person*), pens/crayons/markers, and clear tape/stapler

#### **What You Do:**

- Give everybody four strips of paper and a something to write with.
- Have each person write their own name on one strip of paper.
- Next, they should tape or staple the strip of paper with their name on it into a circle with their name facing the outside.
- Guide your family to think of someone who is different from them and write that name on another strip of paper. —This could be someone who doesn’t like the same movies or toys they do; someone they don’t get along with at work or school; or someone whose family is different from yours.
- Next, prompt them to think of two ways they could be kind to that person.
- Ask everybody to write their two kind ideas on the other two strips of paper (*one kind act per strip of paper*).
- Make a paper chain using tape or a stapler.
- Start with the circle with your name on it, then loop one of the pieces of paper with a kind action on it through the name circle and make another circle.
- Repeat with the other strip of paper with a kind thing on it, and then the strip with the name of the person who is different.
- Each person should have a paper chain with four connected circles.
- Discuss how kindness can actually connect us to the people who are different from us.
- Challenge your family to do the kind things in their chains this week.

**What You Say:** “I love all the kind things you guys thought of to do for the person who is different from you. Sometimes, it feels like we don’t have a lot in common with someone who is different from us, but kindness can connect us to that person. Being kind to them can help us realize we have a lot more in common than we thought. God can help you **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you.**”

**[Make it Personal]** *(Talk about a time when someone who was different from you did something kind for you. Maybe you were in the car with someone who really likes to listen to country music, but you like pop music and they let you listen to*

*your pop music, etc.)*

“Sometimes, we wish everyone liked all the same things as us or looked the same way we do, but God made us all so special and wanted us to be different so we could learn from each other. Don’t forget that you can **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you**, just like the Samaritan from our Bible story today.”

●● **VERSE RELAY** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

**Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body**

**What You Need:** Bible, paper, pen, scissors

**What You Do:**

- Look up and read this month’s Memory Verse from Colossians 3:12.
- Write the verse in large print on the piece of paper. Cut the verse into 10-12 pieces.
- Shuffle up the verse cards and put them on the far end of your playing space.
- Direct your family to line up single file.
- Instruct family members to travel one at a time to the pile of Memory Verse phrases, grab a phrase, and travel back to the family.
- Each time a new player takes off, call out a new mode of travel. Ideas are below.
- When all of the cards have been retrieved, work together to put the verse in the correct order.
- Ways to travel:
 

—crab walk	—baby steps	—jump with two feet	—walk on heels
—walk backward	—giant leaps	—jump on one foot	—gallop
—walk on your knees	—crawl on all fours	—walk on tiptoes	—skip

**What You Say:** “That was FUN! Great teamwork, guys. We’ve learned a LOT about kindness this month. It’s important to show others they are valuable to us by the way we treat them because EVERYONE is valuable to God. Everyone has been made in GOD’S image. So when we show kindness to others, we let them know they are important to God and to us. Kindness matters.

“It matters to the people closest to you and to the people you don’t know well at all. It matters to the people who love chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream and the people who think sherbet is WAY better. It matters to the people who look and talk and act like you, and it matters to the people who look, and talk, and act differently than you. EVERYONE is important and valuable to God. That’s why you need to put on kindness like your clothes and choose to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you.**”

●● **PRAY** [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

**What You Need:** Kindness chains from “Kindness Chain” activity

**What You Do:**

- Pray for God to help each family member reach out to that person they identified who is different and be kind to them.

**What You Say:** “You can **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you**. Our Kindness Chains can remind us to be kind to not just this person but all people who are different from us. No matter what your differences are, God made and loves you and everyone who is different from you. Isn’t that cool?”

“I’m so proud of each of you and the ways you chose to show kindness to the people in your life who are different from you. Let’s pray and ask God to help us do the things we wrote down and be kind to people who are different from us...”

“Dear God, we are so thankful for stories in the Bible that teach us to be kind to people who are different from us. Help us be kind and do the kind things we wrote down on our kindness chain. It may not always be easy to be kind to people who are different from us, but with your help, we can be. We love you. Thank you for loving us. Amen.”

## •• ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Looking for a devo for your kids? Looking for a personal devotional? Want to keep the conversation going? Check out the following resources at [popmn.org/cm](http://popmn.org/cm). Use them this week to continue the conversation around our **[Bottom Line]: Be kind to people who are different from you.**

**GodTime Card** | A 4-day devotional for elementary-aged kids based this week's theme, kicked off on WOW @home

**ParentCue** | A tool for parents based on the weekly theme. Also available as an app, it sends alerts and encouragement specific to the age of your children ([parentcue.org](http://parentcue.org))

**FAITH5** | A 6-day family devotional based on Faith Inkubators' FAITH5

## •• WHAT'S NEXT

Set a reminder to join us next week for WOW @home on Wednesday 03/03 at 6:00 pm live at [facebook.com/popchildrens](https://facebook.com/popchildrens) or [popmn.org/youtube](http://popmn.org/youtube) for a time of worship centered around the **[Bottom Line]: When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**