



FEBRUARY THEME

REWIND

Kindness Deserves a Replay

BIBLE STORY

Titus 3:4-7

Amazing Grace | Kindness Principle

BOTTOM LINE

Be kind to others because God is kind to you

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: What does kindness look like? While this may seem like a simple question, preteens need to start from a concrete idea before connecting that idea to their own life. When kids can identify the kindness of others, they have a better chance of replicating that in their own life. We want families to figure out how they can show kindness to others based on the ways people have been kind to them.

We start the month talking about the foundation for our kindness. In **Titus 3:4-7**, Paul talked about God’s amazing kindness toward us. God poured out kindness when God sent Jesus to rescue us from the consequences of our sin. We can have life forever because of God’s kindness and love.

Bottom Line: Be kind to others because God is kind to you. We pray that as families learn about God’s kindness through Jesus, they will see how they can reflect God’s kindness to the people in their life.

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 the everlasting kindness that God first gave to us, allowing us to then be kind to others in return. Pray that kids would get a glimpse today of the “why” behind being kind, and that they would be encouraged to be intentionally kind to others.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

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

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids if they have ever done something awesome for someone.
- What was the awesome thing they did? How did it make them feel? How do they think it made the other person feel?

•• **SIMON SAYS BE KIND**

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



What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to stand up and form a line facing you.
- Explain that you will be playing a game of “Simon Says” and you are Simon.
- Make sure your group understands how to play Simon Says:
 - Simon tells players what they must do.
 - However, you only do the action when you hear, “Simon says,” before it.
 - For example, if Simon says, “Simon says touch your head,” then you should touch your head. If he simply says, “Touch your head,” you should not touch your head.
- Below are some ideas for actions, but feel free to get creative and add some of your own!

—Touch your nose	—Do five jumping jacks
—Shake your hips	—Touch your toes
—Spin around	—Clap your hands
—Touch your head	—Lick your elbow
—Give someone a high-five	—Touch your shoulders

What You Say: “Well, you all were really good at that game! Simon was getting a little tricky there toward the end, but you were paying close attention to what you should and shouldn’t have been doing. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we’ll hear/we heard about something we should always be doing no matter what!**”

[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.

●● **KINDNESS BUCKETS** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]
Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Strips of heavy cardstock, plastic party cups, stapler (*on leader bin cabinet*), cotton balls

What You Do:

- Give each kid a party cup.
- Help kids make a handle on their cup (*like on a bucket*) by stapling one end of the cardstock strip to the top of the cup and the opposite end of the strip to the other side of the cup.
- Dump the cotton balls in the middle of your table.
- Explain that the group will take turns calling out different things that God has done for you.
- For every kind thing someone lists, everyone will put a cotton ball in their bucket.
- Give an example by going first: “God did a kind thing by _____.”
- Encourage kids to grab a cotton ball and place it inside their bucket.
- If kids get stuck (*or are tempted to repeat an answer that’s already been given*), guide kids to understand the kind things God has done for them by asking questions:
 - How does God take care of you?

- Do you have clothes to wear?
- Do you have something to sleep on?
- Has God given you any people in your life?

What You Say: “Your ‘Kindness Buckets’ look amazing! You know, there are so many kind things God has done for us that there aren’t enough cotton balls in the WORLD to cover them. But what do you think is the kindest thing God has ever done? I’ll give you a hint. We talked about him in our Bible story today. (*God gave us Jesus!*) And does anyone know why God sent Jesus to earth? (*To save us! To teach us how we should live.*) (*These could be tough questions for the kids, so allow them time to think.*) I love to think of all of the things God has done for us and be reminded that you and I can **[Bottom Line] be kind to others because God is kind to you.** **[Make It Personal]** (*Describe how God has been kind to you. You can talk about a time when you needed a friend and God put someone in your path or about a time when God gave you the strength to do something you didn’t think you could.*)

●● **A KINDNESS PROJECT** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Re-sealable plastic bags, scissors, pens, stapler (*on leader bin cabinet*), “A Kindness Project” and “A Kindness Project Parent Note” activity pages, ‘Kindness Buckets’ from the first activity

What You Do:

- Give each kid “A Kindness Project” activity page and a pen.
- Instruct your group to write down some ways they can be kind—one thing in each box.
- Guide kids to think of examples by asking questions:
 - How could you make someone happy at school?
 - What is something that needs to be done around the house?
 - What is something you would like done for you?
 - What happened the last time you were unkind? What can you do differently next time?
- Hand out scissors and plastic bags to each kid.
- Encourage them to cut out their examples and place them inside their bags.
- As kids are finishing, staple a parent note to each of their bags.

What You Say: “I am really loving all of the kindness examples you have given. We talked earlier about the many amazing things God has done for us to show kindness and how you should **[Bottom Line] be kind to others because God is kind to you.** This week, I challenge you to be kind as many times as you can. You are going to take your ‘Kindness Bucket’ and your bag of examples home. Each time you complete one of your kindness examples, you can take it out of your bag, crumple it up, and replace a cotton ball in your cup with that paper. Your goal at the end of the week is to have all of your cotton balls gone and your cup FILLED with ways you showed kindness! If you need more paper squares throughout the week, you can ask to make more at home with any kind of paper.

●● **REPEAT AFTER ME** [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: Bible

What You Do:

- Help your few look up Luke 6:31 and read it out loud together a few times...

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Luke in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number



beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 6. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 31 in chapter 6.

- Challenge your kids to close their Bibles and repeat the verse after you.
- Repeat it several times, varying the ways the verse is said. (*Instruct kids to repeat not only your words but also your tone, speed, volume, and even body movements!*)
- Some ideas are:
 - Slow motion words
 - Fast words
 - Mumbled words
 - Speak normally but stand up and run in place
 - Speak like a villain
 - Speak valiantly, like a superhero would
- Encourage your few to get into pairs and take turns repeating after each other.
 - The kid who starts will get to be the kid who comes up with a creative way to say the verse.
 - Then kids will switch roles.

What You Say: “Just like kindness is worth repeating, so is God’s Word! Our verse is telling us that if we want to see kindness shown to us, we can show that same kindness to others. This week I want you to remember that you can **[Bottom Line] be kind to others because God is kind to you.**”

PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: ‘Kindness Buckets’ and ‘Kindness Projects’ from earlier activities

What You Do:

- Let kids hold their ‘Kindness Buckets’ and bags of “ways to be kind” from earlier.
- Ask kids how they can remember to be kind this week. (*This is kind of a “tongue in cheek” question, since they’re holding their bags full of ideas for kindness.*)
- Pair kids up and let them share with their partner one of their ideas for kindness.
- As soon as they’ve shared, they should pray a short prayer for one another, asking God to help their friend be kind in the specific way they shared this week.
- Close the group in prayer when everyone has finished...

What You Say: “God, I know we often get busy and sometimes forget to show kindness. But, as I think of the crazy, awesome things you have done for me and these kids, I want us to remember to be kind to everyone we meet. This week, I ask that you help us remember that we can be kind to others because you are kind to us. Show us and teach us ways that we can live this out each and every day. In Jesus’ name. Amen!”

Give each child a **GodTime** card. As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid show their parents their bucket and plastic baggie. Encourage each parent to read the attached note. Prompt kids to share that God has done some super kind things for us and say the Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] Be kind to others because God is kind to you.**