

City “All Together Activities”—February 28th, 2021

Today’s Bible Story: Hey Brother (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. Get to Know One Another

What You Need: hand sanitizer

What You Do:

- Invite kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Have the kids pair up, but remain physically distanced.
- Designate one kid to be kid “A,” and one kid to be kid “B.”
- Explain that the kids will share information about themselves so they can get to know each other better.
- Set a timer for one minute, or just “guesstimate” a minute.
- During that minute, instruct kid “A” to share information about themselves as kid “B” listens attentively.
- To start off, direct kid “A” to say “Since you are getting to know me, you should know that . . .”
- Give kid “A” categories of information to share each time. Such as:
 - family information
 - school information
 - favorite thing
 - least favorite thing
- Direct kid “A” to repeat, “Since you’re getting to know me, you should know that . . .” for each new category then share a new piece of information about themselves while kid “B” listens.
- After one minute, instruct the pair to switch roles so kid “B” can share as kid “A” listens.
- After both kids have shared, let the kids share with the group at least one thing they learned about their partner.
- After all kids have shared with the group, let the kids choose new partners and repeat the process.

2. Opening Activity

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Play a version of the game “Telephone,” but instead of passing a secret message down the line, this game involves passing a series of three movements.
- Instruct the kids to stand in a line, one kid behind the other, six feet apart.
- Review the names of each kid in your group so everyone knows the name of the person directly behind them.
- Ask all of the kids to close their eyes.

- Stand in the front of the line facing forward then turn around and say the name of the kid directly behind you.
- Direct that kid to open their eyes and watch as you silently perform three simple movements—any three you choose.
- Walk to the back of the line to observe the rest of the game.
- Have the kid who you named turn around and say the name of the kid directly behind them.
- Instruct the next kid to open their eyes and watch the three movements.
- Continue in the same way, passing the same three movements down the line.
- Direct the kids to close their eyes once they've had their turn performing the movements.
- When it's the last kid's turn to perform the three movements, instruct everyone to open their eyes and discover if they're correct.
- Remind the players throughout the game to keep their eyes closed and only open them when their name is called.

What You Say:

“Way to go! *[You passed all those motions down the line correctly! / You gave this game some great effort.]* **[Transition] All month long, we've been learning about how important it is to spread kindness to others. We can show kindness to others, even if they are different than us!”**

3. Spot the Differences

What You Need: “Spot the Differences” Activity Page (1 per kid), pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Spot the Differences” Activity Page and a pen.
- Encourage the kids to study the page and circle the differences between the two pictures.
- As they're working, ask the following questions:
 - What do you think it means to love or show kindness to your neighbor?
 - WHO is your neighbor?
 - Why do you think it's sometimes easier to show kindness to our friends than it is to show kindness to others who we don't know as well?
 - What are some reasons someone might be unkind to someone else? Have you ever seen that happen?
 - Why would someone look the other way and not try to help in that situation?
- Let the kids compare their pages to see if they spotted all the differences on the page.

What You Say:

“One of the things that's probably MOST important to remember when it comes to kindness is that kindness is for EVERYONE. It's for the people you spend the most time with and for the people you don't know well at all. It's for your best friend and the quiet kid in your class. It's for all the kids who LOVE dogs and the kids who prefer cats. It's for the kids who cheer for [local team] and those who root for [different local team]. You don't have to be best friends with everyone, but you do need to be kind to everyone. Since EVERYONE is valuable to God, we show God's love to others when we value them, too. So don't be like the priest or Levite who walked right by the hurt man, refusing to show kindness. Be like the Samaritan and choose to **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are different from you.**”

4. Verse Relay

What You Need: Hand Sanitizer, “Memory Verse Phrases” (2 prepared sets printed on cardstock per service)

What You Do:

- Give each kid another pump of Hand Sanitizer.
- Divide your group of kids into two teams and have them line up (maintaining physically distancing).
- Choose one team captain. This person will be in charge of putting the verse together in order.
- Place one set of cards across from each team on the opposite side of your area.
- Direct each team to line up single file.
- Instruct kids to travel one at a time to their team’s pile of memory verse phrases, grab a phrase, and travel back to their team’s captain who will be in charge of putting the verse together in order.
- Each time a new pair of players take off, call out a new mode of travel. Ideas are below.
- The first team to retrieve all their cards, hand them to their captain to put the verse in the correct order, and sit down with hands raised, wins!
- Ways to travel:
 - crab walk
 - walk backward
 - walk on your knees
 - baby steps
 - shuffle step, run
 - walk with arms glued to your side
 - crawl on all fours
 - jump with two feet
 - walk on tiptoes
 - walk on heels
 - gallop

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 HIS 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 nothing, talk nothing, and act nothing like 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.**”

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Paper and pens

What You Do:

- Give your group a few minutes to pray on their own, in their own way.
- They can sit or stand, and whisper a prayer or silently bow their heads and pray. They can even write out their prayer.
- *(Optional)* Play quiet music from your room's computer as you give the kids time to pray.
- After a few minutes, pray for the group aloud.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for reminding us that KINDNESS matters. Thank You for always treating us with kindness and love. It shows us that we are valuable and important to You. We want to do the same for the people around us. So please help us to ***[Bottom Line]*** **be kind to people who are different from you.** Help us look for ways to show kindness to EVERYONE, not just the people closest to us or the people most like us. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us just how valuable we are to You. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.”