



Oct 1

God Loves Me and Knows Me Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: God is Kind to Me- Jonah 1-4

Bottom Line: God is merciful and kind.

Leader Context: God is kind to us- just like how He was kind to the people of Nineveh and even to Jonah. God is kind because it's who He is- not because we do anything to deserve it. God sent Jesus to forgive us for our sins because He is kind.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Videos

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Say This! In this story from the Bible, we saw that God sent a man named Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh that they needed to stop doing their own thing and follow God. Jonah didn't want to show God's kindness to the people, so he made a wrong choice and went the opposite way. But then, something else happened God sent a huge fish. I bet it was gross down there, but it was also the place Jonah asked God to forgive him for his wrong choice. God was kind and forgave Jonah. Then Jonah went to Nineveh, and God was kind and forgave the people of Nineveh, too.

The Bible tells us that we all decide to do what we think is best instead of what God knows is best, and we all need forgiveness. God sent someone to show us how to follow God, but unlike Jonah, He never sinned or made wrong choices. God sent His Son, Jesus, to tell us about God's plan for us, and that He is ready to forgive our sin because He is kind and loves us. Even though we don't deserve forgiveness, God is kind, and He made a way for us to be forgiven. Jesus took the punishment for our sin by dying on a cross and rising again so we can be forgiven.

Let's pray together. Remember prayer is listening and talking to God.

God, thank You that You are so kind to us, even though we don't deserve Your kindness. Thank You that You forgive us, no matter what. We ask You to forgive us for the times we choose to do our own thing instead of following You. Help us to be happy and joyful when we think about Your kindness and forgiveness. And please help us show kindness and forgiveness to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Oct 1st K-5 Small Group

showing Kindness(20 minutes)

What You Need: cards(1 per kid), envelopes(1 per kid), markers, crayons, pencils

What You Do:

Have you ever received a letter or card? Someone may have given you a birthday card, Christmas card, or even written you a nice letter. Today we are going to write letters of kindness. I will give each of you a card. You can draw a picture or write a note to a family member, a friend, or even someone who lives near you. Write how you are thankful for that person or something you appreciate about them.

Or, you can draw a picture of you and them and how they were kind to you or someone else. Then this week, ask a family member or other adult to help you deliver your letter of kindness.

Say: Even though today's Bible story happened a very long time ago, the truth is, God is still showing us kindness today. One way that God shows His kindness is by forgiving us for disobeying Him. It doesn't matter how often we come to church or how much of the Bible we know or don't know- we all disobey God and all need forgiveness. And God gives it to us. Because of the amazing kindness God shows us through forgiveness, that should help us show kindness to others too. We can show kindness to others in many different ways. God's kindness is truly amazing.

Discussion Questions:

- What is something you really don't like to do? What is your attitude when you have to do it anyway? *(Invite kids to share stories and share your own.)*
- We all have times when we have to do things that we don't want to do- little things and big things. Sometimes, because we don't want to do something, we just don't do it. We may even do the opposite. Our feelings can lead us to making wrong choices. We call wrong choices that hurt God and others sin. But the good news is that God is kind to us and is always ready to forgive us, even when we sin. Can you think of a time when someone was kind to you, even when you didn't deserve it? *(Invite kids to share stories and share your own.)*
- The Bible tells us that we can be forgiven by God because He is kind. Let's open our Bibles to Jonah 4:2 and read about God's kindness together. *(Invite kids to open up their Bibles. REad the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* Does anyone want to share what they think that passage is talking about?
- God was kind to the people of Nineveh and wanted to forgive them. But Jonah didn't think they deserved God's kindness or forgiveness. God's kindness to them actually made Jonah angry! God's kindness and forgiveness really flips things around because He gives it to people who don't deserve it. Can I tell you someone I know who doesn't deserve God's kindness? Me. The Bible says that no one- not me, not you, no one- deserves God's forgiveness, but He loves us so much that He gives it to us anyway. How can it change hearts and attitudes to that God forgives us when we don't deserve it? How can you be kind and forgiving to others? *(Invite kids to share stories and share your own story.)*
- Just like Jonah and the people of Nineveh, we can choose to do our own thing instead of doing what God wants us to do. God calls this sin. But the good news is that God sent His Son, Jesus, to forgive us for our sins. Why? Because He is kind to us. Does anyone have any questions or anything they would like to share? *(Allow kids time to answer and share your own thoughts.)*
- God is kind to us, even when we don't deserve it. If someone is mean or unkind to us, how can the way God treats us help us in the way we treat them? *(It reminds us to be kind like God is kind. We forgive because God has forgiven us.)*

Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- Pass out coloring pages for kids to take home.
- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.