

**THIS MONTH'S THEME & LIFE APP**

**Make Waves:** What you do can change the world around you

**This Week's Fruit of the Spirit:** KINDNESS

**THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE**

God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns. **Philippians 1:6, NIrV**

**THIS WEEK'S STORY & BOTTOM LINE**

**The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)**

Show kindness to everyone.

MADE TO **CREATE** — activities that encourage creative expressions

## REVIEW ACTIVITY: SCENE STRIPS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Scene strips, prepared background (with pre-cut slits), colored pencils, glue sticks

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a "Scenes Strip" Activity Page, a "Backdrop" Activity Page with the slits cut, and colored pencils.
- Invite the kids to glue their strips together according to the "Diorama Instructions" page.
- Have kids color both the strips and the "Backdrop" Activity Page.
- Use the "Diorama Instructions" Activity Page to show the kids how to weave the "Scenes Strip" Activity Page into the "Backdrop" Activity Page.
- When done, follow the Activity Page outline to review the story.
- Invite the kids to follow along and mimic your actions with their dioramas.
- If time allows, let any kids who want to retell the story individually do so.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** "Great job of recalling the story! I love how Jesus told stories to teach us important lessons. In this story, the Samaritan was the LAST person the injured man would have expected to help him. But the Samaritan did. The Samaritan stopped and chose to be kind in a big way. And that's what we need to do, too. In every situation, no matter if we feel like it, we need to choose kindness. Like that Samaritan, my challenge to you is to [Bottom Line] show kindness to everyone. Your act of kindness can inspire someone else to be kind, and you can set off a wave of kindness that can change you and the world around you."

MADE TO **PLAY** — activities that encourage following directions while having fun and learning new ideas

## VERSE/APPLICATION ACTIVITY: SCENARIO SHUFFLE

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Scrap paper, markers, (optional) phone to play music, tape, scenarios/questions

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Read the new memory verse together and divide it into the number of parts as there are kids in your group.
- Give each kid a piece of scrap paper and assign them part of the divided verse.
- Once everyone is finished, place the papers on the floor in a large circle (like musical chairs).

- Tape the papers to the floor if you think they'll slide around.
- Have the kids stand on their paper.
- Play music from your phone, or tell them to walk around the circle of papers, one kid on one paper at a time.
- Stop the music, or say "Stop!" and the kids should all freeze where they are.
- Whoever is on the first part of the verse should say their part of the verse and then everyone else joins in on reciting the rest of the verse.
  - **KID:** "God began..."
  - **EVERYONE:** "...a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns. Philippians 1:6."
- That kid will then respond to a scenario or question you provide from the sheet of scenarios/questions.
- Play another round except highlight the kid who is caught standing on the *next* phrase of the verse.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** "Paul, the author of this verse, was telling us to be confident about something very important! He was not talking about having self-confidence and trusting in your own strength and abilities, but rather having Christ-confidence. When you put your trust in Jesus, you allow God to start working in you. God promises to be faithful and complete the work in your life so you can accomplish good things and show everyone else who God is. One of those good things includes learning how to **[Bottom Line] show kindness to everyone.**"

MADE TO **MOVE** — activities that appeal to kinesthetic and rhythmic learners

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## GAME ACTIVITY: RIVALS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Rivals headbands*

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to stand, facing you.
- Carefully tape a headband on each kid without letting them see what's written on the headband.
- Direct the other kids not to reveal what's on each kid's headband.
- Instruct the kids to, one at a time, ask five "yes or no" questions to figure out what their headband says.
- Once they've asked those questions, direct the kids to stand next to the other kid they think is their rival (opposite or competition).
- Once the pairs are correct, ask the pairs to come up with three ways that their headband rivals are the same or three things they have in common. If a pair can't find something in common, prompt the group to help them brainstorm.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** "Nice guessing! It's easy to figure out what these pairs might disagree about or compete over, but I found it surprising that all of you figured out what they had in common! Jesus told a story about rivals—the Jews and Samaritans— but his story had a big surprise ending! Jesus was trying to get people to understand the importance of moving past our differences so we can **[Bottom Line] show kindness to everyone.**"

MADE TO **REFLECT** — activities that allow space for personal processing and application

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## PRAYER ACTIVITY / PICK-A-FIDGET

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Printed take-home devotionals; fidgets*

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather your group for a closing prayer and then pass out the take-home devotionals.
- If appropriate for the moment, you may allow kids to pick a fidget as long as it doesn't become a distraction.
- **Optional Discussion Questions:**
  - *Would you rather be described as nice or kind? Why?*
  - *Who is the kindest person you know? How do they show kindness?*
  - *How can you be kind to someone you don't even like?*
  - *When you really don't feel like being kind or you're struggling with someone who is not easy to like, what's are some things you could think about to motivate you to be kind even when it's not what you want to do?*
  - *Give three reasons why you think God wants us to treat others with kindness.*
  - *Why might kindness feel awkward at times? How can you push through that awkwardness and be more comfortable?*

**WHAT YOU SAY:** "Dear God, thank You for the kindness You've shown us in giving Your Son, Jesus, to teach us, lead us, and give his life for us. You are so good and we pale in comparison in our efforts to show kindness. Help us to show kindness to everyone even when it's hard. Even when it doesn't make sense or doesn't seem fair. Help us to see that You taught about a kindness that upends our whole world of what seems right. Lead us and speak to us. In Jesus' name, amen."