

# **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: KINDNESS**

#### Galatians 5:22-25

## HOOK



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#### The story of Amin

Amin lived on the streets. He didn't have a home or money or family. We don't know why or how he ended up on the streets.

But some of our friends from tNCC go to the streets every weekend to help people like Amin.

They feed them.

Sometimes they go the extra mile by washing them up, cutting their hair and giving them new clothes to wear.

That's one way for us to show kindness to people around us!

Today we are going to learn more about the fruit of the Spirit, "Kindness."

**Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, <u>kindness</u>, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



### STORY

#### Jesus was kind

Jesus is the kindest person ever! He was always helping people, healing the sick, touched the lepers (that no one else would go near) and feeding the hungry. Even when He had a long day and was tired, He would not turn away anyone who came to Him.

#### Jesus was kind to children (Luke 18:15-16)

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People were bringing their children to meet Jesus, but the disciples turned them away. After all, children were small and noisy and mischievous ... a real nuisance! But Jesus saw them and called them to Him. "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to them."

#### Jesus told a story ...

Tell the story of The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

In Jesus' story, it was not the religious and "good" people who stopped to help the Jewish man. It was the enemy — a despised Samaritan. The Jews hated the Samaritans.

The Samaritan could have walked on, and nobody would fault him for that. But he had compassion for the man. He cleaned and bandaged his wounds. Put him on his donkey and paid for his care at the inn.

The Samaritan was kind to someone who considered him as an "enemy".



## LESSON

#### Jesus is kind to us

Do you know Jesus was kind to us even when we were God's enemies?

**Col 1:21** *"This includes you who were once far away from God. You were His enemies, separated from Him by your evil thoughts and actions."* 

But even though we were God's enemy, and left to die because of our sin, Jesus still came to die for us. He was kind to us — He cleaned us with His blood, He lifted us and took care of us, He paid the price of our sins for us.

Titus 3:3-7 explains it well. Let's read it together:

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At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. <sup>4</sup> But when <u>the kindness and</u> <u>love of God our Savior appeared</u>, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Jesus showed us kindness when He died on the cross for us to save us from our sin and death.

#### We can be kind just as Jesus is kind to us

**Ephesians 4:32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Jesus forgave us and showed us kindness when we were His enemies.

Today, we have Jesus in our lives, so we can show kindness to others — our family, our friends, strangers and yes, even our enemies!

What are some ways we can show kindness to others? *Get the kids to share their ideas and suggestions. Encourage them to consciously show kindness every day of the week ahead.* 



## **ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS**

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Song: Fruit of the Spirit (by Steve Green) — revision

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLJt 85MNLY

#### Kind Words:

Stick a piece of paper behind every child and get them to go around writing something kind on other children's papers. Kind words only!

-- or --

Have the kids sit in a circle. Pass a ball around. Whoever is holding the ball has to say something kind about another kid and throw the ball to him/her. Kind words only!

#### **Memory Verse challenge**

Game, activity or craft with the memory verse.

**Ephesians 4:32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Close in prayer.