

Loving Others & Kindness Leader Guide

Engage:

Fill up a bag with fun items that can be shared in different ways. (Examples: cookies, a ball, pen and paper) Pull out an item from your bag, and have the kids brainstorm different ways that they can share that item. Have the kids then go ahead and share that item with each other. Talk about how we can share God's love with others by sharing kindness with them.

Discuss:

Have the kids open up their Bibles and read together John 6:1-14

In today's Bible story, the little boy took what he had and gave it to Jesus. He gave Jesus his lunch (which was five loaves of bread and two fish). Jesus multiplied it that day to feed over 5,000 people! In our own lives, there are things that God has given us (talents, gifts, resources, etc.) that on their own may not seem like much. But when we trust God with them and give them to Jesus, He can do so much with them!

- —How do you think the little boy felt when He gave Jesus his lunch?
- —How do you think the little boy felt after Jesus multiplied His lunch and fed so many people?
- —How does this story help you want to share things God has given you?
- —When was a time someone showed you kindness? How did it make you feel?
- —When was a time that you showed someone kindness? How did it make you feel?

Response:

Give each child a penny and talk about how a penny may not seem like much. On the outside, a penny looks like it has little value. The little boy's lunch in the Bible story seemed like it wasn't much. But God took it and blessed it and multiplied it over and over again so that others could see who He was and be fed that day. When we take what we have and give it to God, He can multiply it and do more than we could ever think or imagine. Ask the kids hold their pennies, ask them to think about something in their lives they can give to God so that others may know Him more. When they know what that is, have them put their penny in a container labeled "I'm giving God my..."

Memorize:

This is my commandment: love each other in the same way I have loved you. (John 15:12, NLT)

Have each kid find a partner. Encourage them to work together to put the memory verse to a beat or a song. Give them about 5-10 minutes to work on it as a group and then present it to the rest of the group!

Create:

Have the kids create and decorate "Kindness Cups." These can be paper cups, and use markers or any craft supplies you like to decorate. Give each of the kids about 10 popsicle sticks. On each one, have them write down how they can show kindness to someone. Tell them to take their "Kindness Cups" home, and each day pull out a popsicle stick and do for someone whatever is written on there.

Loving Others & Kindness

What was the Big Idea?
When I'm____,
I____ God's____ me.

What is something you can do to share God's love with others?
Think of one thing to do each day this week to make someone smile!:)

Memory Verse:

This is my commandment:
Love each other in the same way
I have loved you.
John 15:12 (NLT)